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Japan 1976

# The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 17 April 1977  
Seventeenth Year - No. 783 - By air

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## EEC compromise likely over commodities

The European Community is prepared to meet the developing countries halfway, one headline read after Common Market Foreign Ministers had spent yet another session burning the midnight oil.

Headlines read much the same a week beforehand in the wake of the Rome summit of EEC heads of State and government.

Yet despite this gesture it remains to be seen whether the industrialised countries and the Third World will approach or reach agreement in the ongoing negotiations about commodities and debt funding.

Third World demands, as laid down in the Manila Declaration, amount to the conclusion of agreements in respect of all major commodities, with price stabilisation backed by a common fund.

This a priori demand was rejected in one

way or another by virtually all the industrialised countries at Unctad IV in May last year, but the EEC now seems at least to be aiming at a joint approach to future negotiations.

The Common Market also appears far more inclined to consider concluding a certain number of commodity agreements, albeit not the full eighteen. Both Brussels and Bonn feel that agreements on six to ten commodities will be ample.

During recent talks within the EEC and, of course, at Unctad this country has advocated its own version of commodity-price stabilisation.

Bonn's proposal now seems to have been accepted outside the Common Market, with other industrialised countries considering the idea worth incorporating in the negotiation package.

The toughest problem, of course, is the form the common fund is to take. Bonn in particular still seems averse to the basic idea of providing the common fund with cash. This, it is argued, would be to abandon major free-market principles in world trade and to pave the way for controls.

Now, however, the Common Market as a whole appears to have come round to the idea that the common fund will in practice perform a useful offset role when large quantities of one commodity are auctioned and equally large quantities of another commodity require support buying.

The United States and France seem prepared to go even further on this issue.

The time is unquestionably not yet ripe to anticipate even as much as the prospect of a successful conclusion to the talks with Third World countries.

It remains for instance to be seen how the Group of 7 will respond to



## World Bank chief McNamara in Bonn

President of the World Bank, Robert McNamara, right, with SPD chairman Willy Brandt in Bonn where they discussed the talks taking place between the industrialised states and the developing countries. Brandt is to chair an international conference to deal with North-South Dialogue problems. (Photo: dpa)

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## Declaration signed on human rights

Bremer Nachrichten

proposals that represent a watered-down version of their own demands.

Much will depend on whether the feel major aspects of the transfer of resources have been settled to their satisfaction.

How far, for that matter, will the industrialised countries go towards meeting Third World halfway on debt funding?

It is certainly gratifying to note that at least the EEC is making another attempt to speak with one voice. It conspicuously failed to do so at Nairobi, where official spokesmen for the Common Market had to make do with bromides.

Peter J. Veltz  
(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 7 April 1977)

Before the EEC Council of Ministers got round to considerations of hard cash in Luxembourg on 5 April, fine-sounding words were uttered as best-fit a special occasion.

The Council of Ministers, the EEC Commission and the European Parliament pledged themselves in writing to respect human rights, the constitutional principles of member-States and the European convention on human rights.

This undertaking was as long-overdue as it ought to have been a matter of course. It was rendered necessary by an appeal to the Karlsruhe Constitutional Court in respect of an EEC farm price arrangement and a judgment passed in 1974.

The Treaty of Rome setting up the Common Market twenty years ago includes not even the barest suggestion of a catalogue of human rights. The EEC was, after all, primarily an economic amalgam.

It has since been appreciated that this is insufficient as the basis of what will, it is hoped, at some future date be a European political union.

Integration has, moreover, made so much progress over the years that the basic rights constitutionally guaranteed

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## Geneva commodity talks adjourned

May, but decisions must then be reached, otherwise there may well be a reversion to the atmosphere of confrontation.

The West must reach agreement beforehand how large a slice of the cake the industrialised countries are prepared to allow the developing world.

This issue will be on the agenda of the Western economic summit in London on 8 and 9 May, yet even within the EEC we still differ despite the joint approach to raw materials formulated at the Common Market summit in Rome.

West has so far shown little willingness to get down to brass tacks on a proposed transfer of resources. Bonn in particular must be specific if there is

to be serious discussion of debt settlement and commodity-price stabilisation rather than pointless trench warfare accompanied by ideological crossfire.

It was noticeable at Geneva that the Third World is increasingly seeing no difference between East and West. Viewed from the South the Communist countries are every bit as much rich Northerners as are the industrialised countries of the West.

The Communist countries came in for equal criticism alongside the erstwhile colonial powers and the United States. In future they will no longer be able to plead innocence when it comes to the hardships faced by the Third World.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 5 April 1977)

The breakdown of the 107-nation Geneva UN conference on a "common fund" for commodity-price stabilisation cannot be rated much of a surprise. It can hardly be considered to have intensified the North-South conflict either.

What the developing countries deemed "complete failure" was in fact a foregone conclusion. Delegates to the conference were experts, not politicians, and briefed mainly to sound out the other side's views and demonstrate determination in respect of their own.

Unctad is unlikely to stand much chance of agreeing on specific proposals until such time as the political framework of a new international economic order has emerged.

Political decisions need not be expected prior to the resumption of the North-South talks in Paris at the end of

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Differences of opinion intensify between Bonn and Washington

Something is rotten in the state of relations between Bonn and Washington, and not merely — or even primarily — the dispute as to whether or not Bonn should go ahead with its nuclear deal with Brazil.

The nuclear deal may be classified as a bilateral problem. It is so substantial that it can hardly fail to give rise to ill feeling, but since both countries feel an overriding need to maintain their partnership this particular bone of contention ought, let us hope, to be relegated to the status of a manageable political issue.

Ill feeling is still apparent on both sides, for all that. But there are graver problems than ill feeling in respect of practical politics: differences in political credo, for instance, fundamental clashes of viewpoint on world affairs.

To judge by what leading members of the Bonn government have had to say of late about detente, the Helsinki agreement and the MBFR talks in Vienna, it looks very much as though Bonn and Washington are no longer thinking along similar lines.

One might almost go as far as to say that this country appears to be adopting a posture of defiance in view of the political moves President Carter has inaugurated.

Take, for instance, the interview given to Deutsche Welle by Herbert Wehner, leader of the Social Democrats in the Bundestag. Herr Wehner advocated the CSCE standing committees to deal with factors such as environment, energy and transport.

Herbert Wehner, like Willy Brandt before him, is also in favour of no Western moves at the Vienna MBFR talks on the basis of "simultaneous, symmetrical and universal" force reductions by both Nato and the Warsaw Pact countries.

These proposals testify to anxiety about detente, a pampered child which saw the light of day not many years ago. Detente, in a way, is the bone of contention between Bonn and Washington.

What Washington currently means by detente, inasmuch as the term is still used by US officials, is first and foremost arms parity and, by the same token, parity in disarmament.

On closer consideration this can hardly be deemed detente in itself, it is, more properly, the prerequisite of any meaningful progress towards East-West detente.

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by individual member-countries may clash with specific EEC provisions, as the 1974 court case demonstrated.

The declaration now signed by the Nine is not, however, legally binding; it constitutes little more than a declaration of intent. The Common Market has, on the other hand, indicated the values to which it feels committed by virtue, for instance, of the conditions with which it requires would-be members to comply.

Yet these commitments are generally found to reside into the background in the day-to-day conduct of Common Market business

Gerhard Weiler (Bremer Nachrichten, 6 April 1977)

A determined US President is currently engaged in carefully checking what other peaceful intentions might be incorporated in the concept of detente.

President Carter is not interested in mere verbiage. He is suspicious of a Trojan horse that might turn out to contain nothing but the other side's desire to establish hegemony.

Detente as pursued over the past eight years has undoubtedly turned out to be a Trojan horse from the belly of which the Soviet Union has been able to make convenient raids on enemy territory.

He maintains, in other words, that disarmament on any other basis than strict parity is not conducive to detente; if anything it heightens Western instability.

Security and cooperation in Europe do not constitute an exercise in detente and cannot do so as long as the West bows to a restriction of the terms of reference to ecology, energy and transport, allowing the other side a free rein in the ideological dispute.

Viewed in terms of this careful reappraisal of a concept that has grown dubious, not to say meaningless, Herbert Wehner's proposals appear unrealistic, not to say pro-Soviet, even though Helmut Schmidt may deem them worthy of consideration.

It is, for instance, unrealistic (and generally agreed to be so within Nato) to talk in terms of simultaneous, symmetrical and universal force reductions.

Troop cuts along these lines would not contribute towards equality in troop strength; they would merely increase the military superiority of the Warsaw Pact.

Arithmetic is straightforward. Symmetrical numerical reductions in troop strength by both sides would mercifully increase the proportional supremacy of the side that already has more men under arms — the East bloc.

The disparity between Nato and Warsaw Pact forces would increase, as would the risk of Western Europe acustoming itself once and for all to the idea that the Soviet Union enjoys — and must enjoy — military superiority in Europe.

The long-term consequences of accepting this state of affairs are readily assessed by considering Finland's position. Herbert Wehner's approach to the Helsinki accords likewise bears witness to a point of view that seemingly accepts once and for all that detente is tantamount to appeasement.

The crux, however, is that in respect of both the CSCE and MBFR talks this country appears, at a time when the United States has launched a diplomatic offensive, to have fallen back on the view that the Soviet Union must be induced to sign treaties at all costs and virtually regardless whether or not parity is maintained as a result.

Herr Wehner seems unconcerned whether or not as a result, Western Europe might turn out to grow even more dependent on Big Brother in the East.

Opinions differ when it comes to President Carter and his administration's new policies. The debate has switched on the spotlights, highlighting the intellectual stature of politicians in Bonn.

What is more, it is increasingly apparent that President Carter and the detente debate may be paving the way for a rift in the Bonn coalition's ranks.

In an interview with the Bonner General-Anzeiger Foreign Minister Genscher, the leader of the Free Democrats, junior partners in the Bonn coalition, certainly stressed that troop cuts in Europe must be more substantial behind the Iron Curtain than in the West.

It would not, to say the least, be exactly in this country's interest to ignore this timely reminder — quite apart from the long-term clashes with the United States that would be sure, to ensue, in the event of failure by Bonn to reconsecrate the position.

Thomas Kleinger (Die Welt, 4 April 1977)

Genscher and Wehner differ over detente

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Free Democrat, takes a somewhat different view on detente to the attitude, espoused by Herbert Wehner, leader of the Social Democrats in the Bonn Bundestag.

This divergence of viewpoints doubtless prove of no mean importance for the future of the Bonn coalition of Social and Free Democrats headed by SPD Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

Herbert Wehner recently argued, in an interview with Neue Ruhr Zeitung, the Social and Free Democratic coalition is indispensable because it alone is capable of "making serious contributions of its own towards safeguarding world peace."

Elsewhere Herr Wehner has gone even further in indicating what this contribution might be. He suggested, in the Warsaw Pact proposals of a ban on the first nuclear strike and a freeze on current troop strength in Europe considered at the Vienna MBFR talks in conjunction with specific Western proposals.

Hans-Dietrich Genscher is now in record as being opposed to any attempt by this country to go it alone. He felt obliged to explain why, in his view, the proposals Herbert Wehner recommends considering are unacceptable.

So which line does the Bonn coalition espouse? Is it intent on making its contribution towards keeping the peace or is it anxious to avoid going it alone? It cannot be both.

Ludwig Hille (Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 6 April 1977)

The German Tribune

Publisher: Friedrich Reinecke, Editor: Chief: Otto Heinze, Editor: Alexander ... English language sub-editor: Henry P. ... Distribution Manager: Georgine von ... Advertising Manager: Peter Beckmann.

Printed by Kitzberg Buch- und Verlags... Hamburg 76. Tel.: 2 28 51. ... USA by: MASS MAILINGS, Inc., 26 West ... Street, New York, N.Y. 10011.

All articles which THE GERMAN TRIBUNE reprint are published in cooperation with editorial staffs of leading newspapers of the Federal Republic of Germany. The complete translations of the original text are published in German in the German TRIBUNE also published supplements featuring articles, editorials and German periodicals.

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HOME AFFAIRS

Human rights debate in Bundestag was inadequate



The recent Bundestag debate on human rights was flat, inadequate and in some instances unworthy of the noble subject.

When the MP Hans Huyn attempted to broach the core of the matter, pointing out that it was necessary to take a stand for human rights in the GDR even if this were to irk its rulers because it put their authority in question, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt succeeded in diverting the debate and bringing about a totally superfluous discussion on whose "political forebears" had put up more resistance against Hitler in 1933.

CDU leader Helmut Kohl wasted much of his speaking time in demanding an apology for heckling from the Coalition benches and assuring Parliament that nothing was further from his mind than to want to "interfere in the affairs of others." And SPD Chairman Willy Brandt stressed that standing up for human rights was "no substitute for foreign policy."

Neither Coalition nor Opposition seemed to have understood (or indeed wanted to understand) what the human rights issue is all about. They all acted as if this were a new-fangled political tool, a sort of ersatz politics to be handled with care and scepticism.

And yet human rights are the fundamental prerequisite of democratic politics as a whole which must serve as a criterion for every single political decision.

Human rights are "the ideology of the

West" — an ideology the lack of which has been much lamented lately. Pragmatism and tactics (by no means coincidentally) based on Metternich with his longing to perpetuate the status quo have made us virtually completely forget this "ideology".

Soviet civil rights protagonists with the stature of a Solzhenitsyn or a Sakharov were necessary to remind the West of the inalienable ethical foundation of its policy. Their exhortations have at last been heard — at least in President Carter's America.

A new orientation of Western politics, going right down to the roots, has set in, and Bonn, too, will have to adapt itself to the new situation.

US Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, speaking before the Nato Council in Brussels, has clearly outlined the political strategy in East-West relations resulting from Washington's stand on behalf of human rights.

Up to now, he said, the Soviet had made use of a double strategy. On the one hand, detente and trade to the benefit of both sides and, on the other, "implacable ideological warfare" on all levels of international politics, open support for Communist movements in the "partner states of detente" right down to out-and-out subversion.

In the future, Mr Vance said, there will no longer be such a one-sided interpretation of the detente concept. The West, too, will in future know how to find and support its friends — and above all it will call injustice by its name, even in the East.

Politicians in Bonn must have had their ears ringing when Horst Ehmke, speaking in the human rights debate,

brushed aside as mere propaganda the Opposition's motion that a documentation on violations of human rights in the GDR be prepared for the CSCE Follow-up Conference in Belgrade.

And Chancellor Schmidt, a suspicious tremolo in his voice, reminded the Bundestag of "the young girl in Dresden and the young man in Leipzig for whom no rhetorics in the Bundestag could provide an exit permit enabling them to come to the Federal Republic."

This made it clear that Bonn intends to keep the human rights discussion only just ticking over by constantly drawing attention to current bilateral talks and agreements which allegedly had helped many people in the past and which must not be talked into the ground.

But it must at last be said that the much-vaunted improvement in human relations is no alibi for political faint-heartedness and shamefaced collabora-

Little hope for optimism in intra-German relations

Nordwest Zeitung

The Bonn Government's reply to a CDU/CSU question put forward in the Bundestag and concerning German-German relations brought no surprises — nor was it expected to do so.

The development of the relations of these relations is a tedious business. It does not exactly give rise to optimism to hear the Federal Government state that relations have noticeably improved since 1969 although they suffered a setback due to recent GDR measures. Such

statements are a description of existing conditions and no more.

But the Bonn Government has no alternative if it wants to continue to reduce tension for the people on both sides of the border.

It would be unrealistic to assume that the existing differences between the social systems in the two German states could be reduced by a different policy on the part of the Federal Government.

No Communist government has ever been prepared to change its political principles or its form of government under pressure or in order to obtain economic advantages. It is therefore most unlikely that a restrictive trade policy, used as a political tool, can bring about the desired success.

A documentation which the Federal Government intends to present in the course of this month is aimed at providing a comprehensive picture of current difficulties and the improvements that have been achieved since 1969. It can only be hoped that this report will help to lend some objectivity to discussions on this topic.

Despite all hardening of the fronts and despite breaches of faith on the part of the GDR authorities it remains undeniable that human contacts have become easier and more numerous. And this has always been considered the essence of Deutschendpolitik — even by the Opposition. But the difficulties in achieving a normalisation of relations will remain. After all, the GDR holds in its hand — as trump cards, so to speak — everything we want to bring about: the decision on civil liberties, unhindered travel and family reunification.

The only thing that can get us anywhere is perseverance.

Wolfgang Fepner (Nordwest Zeitung, 5 April 1977)

Strife between FDP and its youth group

suddenly announced that the Young Democrats would, as a matter of course, not take part in the May demonstrations of the Committee for Peace, Disarmament and Cooperation since their terms had not been met.

And to top it all Knirsch now says that actual cooperation with Communists was not contemplated and that the whole matter was a question of "strategy".

In view of such illogical statements it would probably be wise to examine in detail everything that went on in the FDP "kindergarten" before cautiously divining that Knirsch is perhaps a little bit less and Ommen perhaps a little bit more prepared to cooperate with Communist-backed organisations from time to time.

Even FDP Chairman Hans-Dietrich Genscher refused to commit himself. As opposed to the SPD, which had to put it on the line in the form of an ultimatum to prevent the Jusos from cooperating with the obscure Committee for Peace, Disarmament and Cooperation, Genscher spoke of a "clarification

All political parties represented in the Bundestag have trouble with their usually rebellious young people's groups.

Right now, the SPD has more problems with its Young Socialists, the so-called Jusos, than the CDU has with its young members, the so-called Young Union, although they, too, are not exactly backward about coming forward with criticism of the parent party.

But in the case of SPD and CDU, the essence of the dispute with the rebelling and reform-happy young members is clearly discernible, whereas this cannot be said of the FDP's Young Democrats.

Their dispute with the parent party differs inasmuch as it bears clearly irrational, absurd, grotesque and indeed, comical traits.

It is therefore not surprising that the Young Democrats' Executive Committee members Hanspeter Knirsch, Michael Kleff and Geriand Sohorr, who resigned from office, refused to give clear answers to clear questions, as did the new chairman Detlef Ommen.

Knirsch and his associates resigned after the Young Democrats' Federal Executive Committee voted in favour of signing an appeal by the Communist-controlled Committee for Peace, Disarmament and Cooperation which was at odds with a decision to the contrary taken earlier.

But then, in an about-face, the Committee's "stump" under Detlef Ommen

SECURITY

'Bugging' affair leads to a review of security service controls

The minutes of the five sessions of the Bundestag's Domestic Affairs Committee dealing with the "bugging" affairs have so far yielded little more than reams of paper.

The same applies to the draft Bills for a better control of our secret services which were put forward by some Social Democratic MPs under the impact of the bugging disclosures.

And the same also applies to the formal report on the Domestic Affairs Committee's investigation and its further work which FDP Floor Leader Wolfgang Mischnick and his SPD opposite number Herbert Wehner handed to all FDP and SPD MPs "as an aide memoire in informing the citizens of their electoral districts."

In the plethora of questions with which the work groups of the Coalition parties will have to deal - both jointly and severally - many citizens see a certain helplessness while others consider it as mere thoroughness.

Virtually every aspect of the issue has been included in these questions. Among the things to be examined are the legal bases for the Verfassungsschutz (Internal Security Department) as well as the necessity of creating such bases for the Federal Intelligence Service and the Military Counter-Intelligence Service.

Under discussion are better controls of these services, both within the executive and the legislative branches of Government.

Essentially this involves the question as to the type and extent of control, authorities and the modalities of work of the persons and bodies involved.

Moreover, questions concerning the protection of citizens' rights and regulations governing the handling of classified secret service material as well as possible compensation (as in the Traube case) must be reviewed.

One of the major political and procedural difficulties lies in the fact that the work of the secret services must not be unnecessarily hampered while, on the other hand, they must be subjected to controls.

A middle-of-the-road solution is therefore called for, and this is not made any easier by the fact that the Bundestag would like to avoid a meshing of the executive and legislative branches of Government.

In view of all this, the SPD, which has progressed furthest with regard to the issue at stake, favours a high-ranking official as a control officer for the three services. It would be his function to inform the Minister concerned of all intended actions on the part of the services which are legally doubtful.

The controller is to be controlled -

apart from supervision by the Minister - by a small parliamentary committee (be it for all three services or for each of them separately).

But it remains entirely open whether this parliamentary supervision is to exercise its authority after the fact or whether it is to be consulted in advance.

Practical considerations play as much of a role in this context as does the reluctance to do away with the clear line separating the executive and legislative branches of Government.

The same reasons lie behind the reservation against a special secret service committee to which members of the Bundesrat (Senate) and the Federal Government or its representatives would have access at any time - a privilege which could only be restricted by an amendment of the Constitution.

The attitude of the Opposition is still unclear. Although it considers the bugging that has become known to date justified it is nevertheless interested in curtailing the scope of action of the secret services.

It also wants to improve the flow of information between the executive and legislative branches.

But on the other hand, the Opposition opposes a mingling of the two branches and, above all, institutionalised measures for a joint management in cases of crisis, which would entail re-

sponsibility on the part of the Opposition and make it an auxiliary force of the Government.

When it comes to discussing details after the Easter holidays, the tug-of-war is likely to take place more between the Government and Opposition.

Minister of the Interior Werner Mohr, Defence Minister George Leber and the administrative head of the Chancellery Dr Manfred Schüller, in their positions as superiors of the three services, have been presented with a list of questions put forward by the SPD and FDP and asked for their cooperation. The same list went to Minister of Justice Hans-Jochen Vogel.

But the executive branch has adopted a wait-and-see attitude pending the further course of the discussion among MPs. Its reticence is based on the argument that, whatever changes might be contemplated, circumspection must be of the essence and the effectiveness of the services must not be impaired. A special law governing the Federal Intelligence Service is not favoured.

Chancellor Schmidt has wanted against making indiscriminate use of "emergency provisions" by applying them to a wide range of cases, although he was not in favour of sweeping reforms in the secret services sector.

In view of the confused situation and the uncertainty as to the consequences to be drawn from the bugging affair, Herbert Wehner's recent remarks might have a key function. In a letter to SPD MPs, Herr Wehner said that his party wanted to "reveal what there is to be revealed, clarify what there is to be clarified and regulate what there is to be regulated."

Carl-Christian Kaiser (Die Zeit, 1 April 1977)

INDUSTRY

Safety at work standards discussed at Metal Workers' Union congress

This country's Industriegewerkschaft Metall, IGM (Metal Workers' Union), the Federal Republic's largest union, fears that the implementation of the Safety at Work Act is headed in the wrong direction.

IGM Executive Committee member Karl-Helmut Janzen said at his union's industrial medicine congress in Gelsenkirchen that many works doctors were genuinely trying to look after the workers to the best of their ability, but that, according to law, their main job was to help provide better working conditions.

Says Herr Janzen: "And in this respect we have the impression that they are not paying enough attention to this job and are indeed shirking it in many instances."

The same impression was conveyed by the Düsseldorf industrial medicine specialist Dr Peters. Works doctors, he said, should not always sit around in their white coats, but should at times put on overalls and go through the plant, keeping their eyes open.

Works Council chairman Adel from Düsseldorf was even more outspoken in his criticism, saying that the works doctor should first take a close look at the company and its working conditions and then look at the man. This, he went on to say, was the sequence of his work as prescribed by law, and the question of priorities therefore does not arise at all.

The congress was marked by both approval and criticism in its assessment of the implementation of the two-year old Federal Act governing safety at work. This Act makes it compulsory for certain employers to have on their staff works doctors whose task it is to watch over the implementation of safety regulations.

The IGM, which has always been in the avant garde where social questions are concerned, invited 140 doctors, trade unionists, Works Council members and high-ranking Government officials to its Gelsenkirchen congress. Eight participants read papers, and 80 took part in the discussion.

It was presupposed that the participants were familiar with the fact that this country now has some 750 full-time works doctors and about 6,000 who fulfil this function on a part-time basis. Moreover, 70 works doctors' centres were founded by trade guilds and 60 by employers' associations. These centres are primarily intended to look after small and medium-sized companies.

The congress took as its basis the same set of circumstances which led to the passing of the Safety at Work Act, namely the great number of accidents at work, the increase in occupational diseases - and not only hearing impairments resulting from noise - as well as the growing number of disabilities and premature retirements resulting from working conditions.

All this, it was concluded at the Gelsenkirchen congress, proved that there is plenty of leeway to be made up where works medicine is concerned - especially in view of the fact that thoughtlessness, lack of experience and, in some instances, even intention hamper the implementation of the Safety Act. Herr Janzen pointed out that "negative examples still prevail".

The dilemma of industrial medicine

Continued on page 7

begins with the physical examination of new staff. Many personnel managers, Herr Janzen complained, handled the results of such checkups as mercifully as if they were determined to have a staff of Olympic athletes.

A major North German company, for instance, examined 1,200 job applicants of whom 350 were barred from employment because of hearing impairments resulting from noise. This high proportion of thus handicapped workers is probably due to the fact that many jobs are performed in areas which are officially recognised as so-called noise zones.

A Works Council member said, "We must, after all, make sure that accident-prevention regulations are observed." But Herr Janzen countered this contention with the question: "Have we really exhausted all technical possibilities of noise abatement? And does not this type of checkup by works doctors lead us up a blind alley?"

Professor Burkhardt, Frankfurt, pointed out that examinations of job applicants should not take place according to uniform criteria. Above all, a works doctor must be thoroughly familiar with the demands of any particular job.

And Professor Beckenkamp, Saarbrücken, demanded that every negative assessment of an applicant should be matched by a positive one, as for instance: "Not suitable for this job, but suitable for ..."

Professor Hettinger, Wuppertal, pro-

Another participant in the congress warned that it was not the function of works doctors to keep people from specific jobs on the basis of theoretical criteria - especially in view of the fact that these people have, in many instances, performed that particular type of work without any detrimental effects to their health and that there is therefore no reason why they should not continue to do so. Moreover, it should be possible for employer and employee to have the decision of a works doctor reviewed. A major problem still, Herr Janzen pointed out, is the question whether the employee's claim to medical care at work implies that he must be examined by the works doctor at the time of employment.

According to IGM, examination is only compulsory in cases of a clearly defined danger. A physical examination by a works doctor should be no more than a facility of which the staff member can avail himself without being compelled to do so. As a result, IGM points out, we must resist all tendencies to introduce general physical checkups with their card indexes and health passes.

An official of the Federal Ministry of Labour stressed that the works doctor's function consisted not only in checkups of the staff. According to law, the works doctor must also look after the planning and maintenance of places of work as well as social and sanitary facilities.

Professor Hettinger, Wuppertal, pro-

vided guidelines in this connection, according to which one third of the works doctor's time must be devoted to ergonomic and industrial medicine questions on site - and this includes regular inspections of the works. Only one-quarter of the doctor's time should be devoted to checkups.

Dr Metzner, Salzgitter, called for teamwork on the part of doctors with safety engineers and Works Council members, while Dr Labrot, Kassel, complained about excessive paper work, saying, "We works doctors want to be more than just highly-paid clerks."

As the discussion progressed, it became obvious that the Gelsenkirchen congress viewed too many problems from the vantage point of big companies which can afford exemplary and well-staffed medical centres. But 80 per cent of our workers work in small and medium-sized firms which employ part-time works doctors or make use of industrial medicine centres. In these companies it is the task of the Works Council to bring about an extension in the availability of works doctors through the trade guilds.

The specific problems of white collar workers, many of whom have to retire prematurely, played virtually no role at the Gelsenkirchen Congress. But this could have been purely coincidental.

With regard to legislation, it is noteworthy that a member of the Trade Union Federation called for the establishment of more part-time jobs through legislation. He said: "Pension Funds and the National Health system abide by an all-or-nothing system. This must be changed. We need something inbetween for all those who are no longer in prime physical condition and for those who are convalescing. It is inhuman to pension them off."

Reinhard Biehl (Frankfurter Allgemeine, 9 April 1977)

Telephone-tapping and "bugging" of members of the general public by the Office for the Protection of the Constitution and other government intelligence agencies have rightly occasioned a public outcry recently.

Yet no one seems unduly worried any longer that countless numbers of bugging devices are bought by the general public themselves to cock an illegal ear at staff and members of the family, neighbours and business competitors.

Ten years ago Adolf Müller-Emmert, a Social Democratic deputy, championed in the Bundestag a ban on the manufacture and sale of bugging devices.

The proposal was referred to committee and eventually shelved because legal experts were unable to agree on a wording that would ban undesirable equipment, but leave a loophole for essential technical and medical aids.

Take, for instance, the Heidelberg capsule, which relays data from the patient's body, or even the wireless microphone used by outside broadcast reporters.

What is more, the lawmakers were unable to hit on a formula that would phrase the ban in such a way as to enable manufacturers to continue to manufacture bugging devices for export.

Bugging devices in this country are like firearms in the United States in that anyone is entitled to buy them; only their misuse is illegal.

Where firearms are concerned it has long been acknowledged that the owner of a pistol or revolver will sooner or later be tempted to use it.

Thus the only way to reduce the number of firearms offences is to impose restrictions on ownership. You need all manner of permits before you are entitled to buy firearms in this coun-

The 'bug' whose spread is becoming harder to stop

try, and purchases are painstakingly registered.

A similar solution would appear to make sense where bugging devices are concerned too. Since a total ban cannot be imposed because of medical, technical and export requirements, a check could at least be kept on each device sold.

Registration at the point of sale could, indeed, be combined with a requirement that the purchaser submit evidence in support of his claim that the device will be put to legal use.

Owners of unregistered devices could then be rendered liable to fines and other penalties, but even then a loophole would remain. Electronics do-it-yourselfers could still piece together bugs of their own.

Bugging has, indeed, developed into something of a popular sport in recent years. Experts reckon that annual sales of devices total at least 100,000 and that more than a million are currently in circulation.

They cost between fifty and 1,000 deutschmarks and even a ballpoint pen presented by a business associate or supplier may turn out to incorporate a bugging device.

A coat button may also relay every word the wearer says, as may devices installed in electric points. And who can tell, except by dismantling a telephone part by part, whether it does not relay everything that is said in the room regardless whether or not the phone is off the hook.

The Telecommunications Act is moreover, inapplicable in the case of devices that do not transmit conversations, but merely record them on tape. In order to keep footage to a minimum, these devices only switch on when conversations are held.

Bugging devices of all kinds, however, are subject to Paragraph 201 of the criminal code, which stipulates that "persons who listen without permission to private conversation that is not meant for their ears and do so with the aid of a bugging device" are liable to fines or imprisonment of up to three years.

Permission is deemed to have been given when the individual whose conversations are tapped or bugged either expressly approves or is aware that the procedure is customary in his of her trade or profession.

Foreign exchange dealers, for instance, customarily record their transactions on tape. Fire brigades also tape-record their calls, as do control tower staff their conversations with airline pilots.

Bugging is also deemed permissible when the objective is to forestall damage to valuable goods or possessions. This provision, however, is wide open to interpretation.

Is the owner of a firm entitled to tap or tap staff conversations with a view to catching thieves? Is a private eye entitled to use bugging devices to catch a husband engaged in an illicit affair?

There are no generally valid legal interpretations of what is confidentially private. Besides, police everywhere possess bugging devices - and use them, too, in cases of blackmail, espionage, narcotics dealing.

But inquisitive neighbours who

Grotius, a firm of industrial consultants, maintains that managers motivate their staff only to the extent they consider absolutely necessary and even then only grudgingly.

HAY another firm of industrial consultants, has a more optimistic outlook. According to them, the staff of growing companies is usually motivated because they consider growth a personal accolade to themselves.

Between these two opposing views there are numerous other viewpoints on the subject of motivation.

But what is motivation? Executives of the highly industrialised Rhine and Ruhr regions ask themselves: "Are we to provide our staff with bouzonnieres?"

Anyway, it would seem interesting enough to look into the problem of "motivation of manpower" which has latterly come to the fore in discussions. Polls among 50 experienced practitioners were expected to provide the answers to some of the questions surrounding motivation.

Most executives were non-committal when approached on this subject. And many did not quite know what the term meant. But the counselling sector provided numerous practical and telling examples.

Motivation extends from the design of the place of work all the way to profit-sharing, remuneration and the goals which management sets the staff. Essential elements are guidelines such as the observation of specific leadership systems. But the main tool remains information.

ESSO AG confirms these facts, augmenting them as follows: "We see the essence of motivation in the constant flow of information to our staff concen-

How managers motivate their staffs

ning the position of their company. This usually takes place through the immediate superior and has been practised by us for many years."

One of the few and at the same time most successful businesses which base their success on staff motivation is the Bertelsmann publishing house with Reinhard Mohn at the helm.

Although outsiders cannot assess the extent to which Herr Mohn managed to realise his ideas, certain facts speak for themselves. Ninety-three per cent of Bertelsmann's staff have joined the company's profit-sharing scheme.

And Bertelsmann's subsidiary Gruner & Jahr, under its chairman of the board Manfred Fischer, succeeded against the Works Council's vote in implementing Gruner & Jahr staff participation in the scheme.

Farberwerke Hoechst, on the other hand, has come up with a special type of motivation in the form of their "trainee workshop".

Small groups of new workers in various sectors are familiarised with the company, its safety measures, health care and wage problems as well as the company's products. This has been particularly welcomed by foreign staff members.

The Volkswagen works have introduced a new course aimed exclusively at informing staff members about the com-

pany's problems and promoting insight into specific aspects of the firm. The same objectives where executives are concerned are served by discussion evenings which the management holds once every two months for its 70 top level staff members.

The steel mill Peine Salzgitter include in their motivation concept financial incentives and a cooperative style of management as well as supplementary training, special holidays for educational purposes and the pleasant working conditions for which the company has become internationally known.

An important aspect of motivation lies in the fact that it must be geared to a specific staff. Word has meanwhile got around that not every company's staff is enthusiastic about more responsibility and more independence.

Many prefer to work under supervision and without the necessity of making independent decisions. In fact, these people feel demotivated if given too much responsibility.

McKinsey, as US firm of industrial counsellors, summed up de-motivating factors as follows: 1. Seemingly arbitrary removal of privileges (such as flexible working hours) when profits dwindle. 2. Uncertainty about the company's position and job safety. 3. Frequent drastic changes in performance demands. 4. Responsibility without authority and organisational conflicts.

A close examination of arguments such as the above will show that where motivation is concerned, the "heart-beat of work" is frequently confused with the bottomline. Such misunderstandings can have disastrous consequences on markets where competition is fierce.

Rosmarie Winter (Süddeutsche Zeitung, 2 April 1977)

Handwritten text in a box: 600000

WORLD TRADE

# Bonn steps up imports to help boost world economy

The economic development in the Western world has been unsatisfactory in many ways.

The recovery that set in eighteen months ago and on which so many hopes were pinned has meanwhile slowed down again. Unemployment figures remain high everywhere; the balances of payments of many major countries have deteriorated still further, and there is a feeling of apprehension and concern in many capitals.

Speculation as to what ails the world economy and what can be done to put it back on its feet is rife.

In this general quest to pinpoint the roots of the evil and devise a cure, Washington has come up with the fixed idea that the Federal Republic with its high trade surpluses and its anti-inflationary policy is the culprit number one.

Washington pundits argue more or less as follows: The Bonn Government and the Bundesbank (this country's Central Bank) are not prepared to engage in a more active economic policy.

As a result, America is hampered in its plans to help the weaker countries overcome their economic difficulties by the three strongest industrial nations administering heavy booster shots to their own economies. According to some American Senators, Bonn's stability policy lies at the root of all economic problems. Henry Reuss, for instance, complained that "Germany is doing nothing to boost the economy."



It is easy enough to prove how unfounded such accusations are. Since, as the world's second largest trading nation, the Federal Republic must sell one-third of its industrial output abroad, it is more than any other nation dependent on international prosperity.

It therefore follows that — even if this country wanted to shirk its international responsibilities — it would have no choice but, to contribute as much as possible to the prosperity of other nations for reasons of self-preservation.

Accusations levelled against us by the Americans and other nations are patently absurd since they are tantamount to saying that the Federal Government and the Bundesbank are deliberately pursuing a policy of foreign trade suicide.

On the contrary, there is much evidence that the Federal Republic has in the past two years done more to boost the world economy than the United States or, indeed, Japan.

During the 1975 recession the other industrial nations reduced their imports by an average of seven per cent while the Federal Republic stepped up imports by three per cent during the same period. And in 1976 this country's imports

rose by a whopping 17 per cent, compared with an average of 13 per cent for the others.

Britain, Japan, the United States and the developing nations were able to boost their shipments to West Germany by as much as 20 per cent. This was greatly facilitated by the fact that this country's monetary authorities permitted the deutschmark exchange rate to rise by 13 per cent last year without doing anything to halt this trend.

This development in itself merits international recognition since it made German goods more expensive, thus giving foreign products an edge not only on this country's market, but throughout the world.

It must furthermore be pointed out that the United States, Britain, France and other industrial nations are granting capital aid to developing countries on condition that this money be spent only for orders placed in the country that provides such assistance. The Federal Republic's capital assistance does not impose such conditions, which benefits not only the developing nations, but the industrial ones as well.

Granted, this country's trade surpluses are high. But foreign critics should not act as if the Germans were raking in their export proceeds with the intention of stashing them away and spending as little as possible. This is not so.

A large proportion of last year's

DM34,500 million trade surplus was abroad again. Let us mention but the figures in this connection: Foreign workers employed in the Federal Republic transferred DM6,500 million to their home countries, and German tourists spent the huge sum of DM22,500 million abroad.

Both of these items are particularly beneficial to the recipient nations since they are virtually pure foreign exchange revenues.

In other words, almost everything a tourist needs can be provided from the host country's own resources as opposed to many export goods which require foreign exchange expenditures for raw materials or semi-finished products. It is therefore fallacious to be guided only by trade surpluses or deficits.

But the Federal Republic has also been a major lender of money to the weaker nations and to international organisations. As a result there is hardly any need to call on this country to contribute more towards boosting the world's economy. Bonn is already doing so without much ado and without effort from the rooftops.

Setting the inflation spiral in motion will certainly not cure the world economy nor will it lastingly eliminate unemployment and trade deficits. This has been amply borne out by developments of the past.

Critics abroad would be well advised to stop blaming the Federal Republic for its relative price stability. With this economic policy the Germans are serving other countries better than they would wish inflationary expansion to be called for by these critics.

Hans Roepfer  
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 30 March 1977)

The Federal Government is more and more attempting to counter international demands on its monetary and economic resources.

The Federal Press and Information Office has now, in a comprehensive documentation, provided a survey on the Bonn Government's payments to foreign countries, which stresses above all the qualitative elements rather than figures.

The recent analysis must be viewed in conjunction with the financial demands likely to be put forward within the framework of the North-South Dialogue.

Instead of the customary international yardstick applied to governmental development aid in terms of a percentage of the GNP, the Federal Government stresses overall assistance, including that from the private sector.

In this way the survey arrives at a figure of DM12,200 million for 1975, representing 1.18 per cent of the GNP, compared with the international target of one per cent.

Average annual increases since 1970, the survey says, amounted to 20 per cent. According to the Federal Press Office, this country's contribution in terms of percentage of the GNP was topped only by Holland, Belgium and Canada.

Although the study admits that the governmental share in development aid in terms of GNP falls short of the international target of 0.7 per cent, reaching only 0.32 per cent with the Government's expenditure of D3,500 million for this purpose in 1976, the Federal Republic still ranked before the United States, Switzerland and Japan, but after Belgium, France and Holland.

Even in the years to come it will only

# Bonn gives facts and figures on how it is helping other countries

Just be possible to maintain a share of roughly 0.3 per cent.

The Federal Government points out that much of its aid was not contingent on purchases in this country. Moreover, the Federal Republic's share in multilateral aid, which amounted to 31.4 per cent, was relatively high. Some 44 per cent of this country's multilateral aid was provided via the EEC.

Another major part of Bonn's financial contribution goes to the European Community. This country's share in the EEC budget has developed in direct proportion to the steep increase of the Community's budget.

Based in a documentation of the Federal Ministry of Finance, the Press Office study once more points out that the Federal Republic has borne four-fifths of the genuine redistribution resulting from the difference between money contributed and benefits received which, in 1975, amounted to 1,040 accounting units equalling an amount of DM3,200 million (one accounting unit equals DM3.66).

Further payments resulted from the calculation of the budgetary share at exchange rates which are no longer realistic. As in the case of the redistribution, there, too, it was primarily the monetarily weak countries such as Great Britain and Italy which benefited.

Additional payments are provided by

the Federal Republic in the form of credits granted by the European Investment Bank and the European Coal and Steel Community. Among further contributions in the credit and monetary sector the study mentions the following:

• The gold-collateral DM4,800 million credit to Italy of September 1974 which was refinanced last year.

• This country's contribution to the medium-term EEC assistance to Italy, amounting to DM1,300 million.

• This country's guarantee of a maximum of 44 per cent of the Community's DM3,100 million loan to Italy and Ireland to offset balance of payments deficits resulting from oil price increases.

• Various assistances to the Central Bank of Portugal which has applied for EEC membership.

The third sector of Bonn's credits and payments revolves around the IMF. These contributions cannot always be expressed in exact figures.

But it is an indication of the extent to which German currency is being used by the IMF that the Fund's DM reserves at the end of 1976 amounted to a mere 10 per cent of the Federal Republic's quota, meaning that the largest part of the credits has been utilised.

For the additional oil facility intended for the financing of balance of payments deficits resulting from oil prices, which

has meanwhile been fully utilised, the Bundesbank (this country's Central Bank) provided a total of DM1,700 million in 1975.

In keeping with and proportionate to its general quota, the Federal Republic, participating in the newly created The Fund for the poorer developing nations. The Fund is to provide low-interest credits, obviating the means from the sale of one-sixth of the IMF's gold reserves.

And finally, the Federal Republic is participating in the general credits of the ten major industrial nations amounting to 6,000 million dollars. Bonn's share in this line of credit amounts to DM4,000 million.

The Bundesbank is also participating in the IMF's credit to Great Britain in the tune of 25 per cent of DM2,000 million. An additional 3,000 million dollars (Bonn's share 600 million dollars) have been provided in order to safeguard sterling reserves within the framework of the Basle Agreement.

According to the Federal Press Office, Bonn's contribution in 1976 to some 200 international organisations, including the UN, amounted to DM2,800 million.

By mid-1975, this country had paid to the United States \$DMS,900 million under the terms of the Foreign Exchange Offset Agreement for the financing of US troops in the Federal Republic. The Agreement has not been extended.

Great Britain received an annual yearly assistance of DM110 million for the period from 1971 to 1976.

(Handelsblau, 31 March 1977)

OVERSEAS

# First tour of African states by Economic Cooperation Minister Marie Schlei

Marie Schlei, Bonn's Minister in charge of development aid, has just concluded her first official visit to a number of African states.

During her trip, Frau Schlei was confronted with a number of tricky questions as for instance: How is a Bonn Minister to approach an African nationalist leader who, having spent many years of his life in the white rulers' prisons, has been discriminated against and is still being barred by the white minority in Rhodesia from a position which, in his view, is his due — namely that of Head of Government, elected by his country's black majority, of an independent Rhodesia?

This man is Joshua Nkomo, black nationalist leader of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, whom Frau Schlei met in order to establish an initial dialogue between Bonn and the leaders of the Rhodesian Liberation Movement.

She tried to explain the German standpoint by likening the situation in her own country to the conflict in Southern Africa.

Says Frau Schlei: "I told Nkomo of my own fate and described to him how an innocent people like the Pommeranians and the Silesians had to suffer from history... and how my husband fell during the War and my mother died while fleeing from the Russians."

"I told him how we lost our home and how, when I found a new home in Berlin, that city, too, was divided. It was then that he understood that we cannot provide arms in view of our martial past."

Marie Schlei, 57, has had a remarkable career. She was a saleslady, a postal clerk, a teacher and an SPD member since 1949. In 1969 she was elected a Member of the Bundestag.

Later she was appointed by Chancellor Helmut Schmidt State Secretary in the Chancellery and subsequently succeeded Egon Bahr as Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development when the former became the SPD's Federal Administrator.

People who have had to struggle so hard — Frau Schlei has been divorced twice and underwent breast cancer surgery a few years ago — are easily tempted to be somewhat uncritical in their self-evaluation.

According to her, she was not only understood by Nkomo with whom she talked for three hours, but was "generally the woman of the week in Zambia, and the Zambians made a touching attempt to grant me the same rank in terms of protocol as they granted to the Soviet Union's President Podgorny during his State visit."

Frau Schlei believes that "one can ex-

Continued from page 4  
to every word the people next door have to say for themselves, not to mention businessmen who use bugging devices to find out what their competitors are up to, are unquestionably contravening the law.

Yet nowadays the devices are so sophisticated that bugging seldom comes to light, and usually only by coincidence. In recent years only between twenty and fifty cases a year have been taken to court.

Horst Zimmermann  
(Handelsblatt, 31 March 1977)

plain one's own position to the Africans provided one speaks to them openly."

Says she: "They can see that I am a simple person and very close to them in spontaneity and directness of approach, and so they realise that I am serious and, as the daughter of a tradesman, practically minded, and that, even where individual projects are involved, I can see at a glance if there is something which we can do jointly."

Frau Schlei's spontaneity is accentuated still further by her Berlin accent and the outspokenness of the Berliner — although there can be little doubt that she is using her blunt language to cover up her insecurity.

The staff which accompanied her on her African tour noticed a certain "overdrive" in Marie Schlei. Her jokes were exaggerated and her commitment lacked the necessary matter-of-factness. Her interest in the new things she saw was that of a tourist and her spontaneity frequently outright embarrassing.

Her directness of speech often caused difficulty for the woman interpreter of her Ministry, as for instance when she addressed construction workers in Botswana, saying that, as a tradesman's daughter, she knew all about life on a construction site and that "anyone who has ordered something to be built is decidedly unpopular if he fails to buy the workers a beer." While saying this, she used a coarse word.

At an official dinner she began her toast by saying to Kenya's Finance Minister Kibaki: "You are the first Finance Minister who cannot count to three."

This was prompted by the fact that Mr Kibaki, who originally said he would restrict his speech to three points, spoke somewhat longer than intended.

The Africans found it somewhat difficult to deal with the Minister, although protocol and the courtesy due to a woman prevented them from expressing this. Moreover, there was a conspicuous lack of direct contact because Frau

Schlei speaks no foreign language and is therefore entirely dependent on her interpreter.

When Chancellor Schmidt wanted to promote her out of the Chancellery, offering her the Ministry of Health (which is traditionally reserved for women), she refused. But alas, she had neither the specialised knowledge concerning development aid nor did she know much about Third World problems when she took on her post at the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Her predecessors in this office were such outstanding personalities as Walter Scheel, Hans-Jürgen Wischnewski, Egon Bahr and Erhard Eppler.

During her tour of Africa, Frau Schlei also tolerated embarrassing situations created by her staff.

Her personal assistant performed a stripping act in the much-frequented swimming pool of the Botswana Holiday Inn in front of the South African delegation, which was much interested in her visit, as well as numerous other guests.

When journalists expressed their dismay at such a display on the part of official representatives of Bonn they were accused of lacking a sense of humour.

Even so, the criticism by the development aid spokesman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Opposition, the MP Dr. Peter Seidlitz, concerning Frau Schlei's visit to Africa is unfounded in the points put forward by him.

Todenhöfer criticised that the Federal Government was setting wrong accents by its stepped up support for the Liberation Movements of Namibia and Rhodesia as well as in its support for the so-called Front States because this was a one-sided favouring of the Africans.

In fact, it is the merit of Egon Bahr, Marie Schlei's predecessor, to have been the first to come up with a critical analysis of the situation in Southern Africa



Marie Schlei  
(Photos: Sven Simon)

and, following the events in Angola and Mozambique, to arrive at the conclusion that sooner or later there will be African majority governments in Salisbury and Windhoek.

According to Herr Bahr, it would be unwise for Bonn not to seek contact with the future rulers and to rely entirely on its present partner in that region, namely South Africa.

Frau Schlei, in cooperation with Helmut Schmidt and Herbert Wehner as well as in consultation with Foreign Minister Genscher and Minister of Economic Affairs Friderichs, formulated with her tour of Africa Bonn's new Africa policy which goes back to Bahr rather than the Foreign Ministry.

Bonn's solidarity with those forces which want to help implement the rights of the majority in Southern Africa is demonstrated by refugees and for Rhodesians in exile, millions of deutschmarks worth of credits to Botswana (among other things for oil stockpiles) and DM70 million in additional aid for Zambia within a two-year period. Says Frau Schlei: "We have shown the Africans that the Western world and the Federal Republic of Germany are present even in places where the others are very strongly represented."

Peter Seidlitz  
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 4 April 1977)

# Bonn's development aid also goes to Communist-controlled countries

All Jordan (total DM32 million), Morocco (73), Mauritania (12), Syria (110), Sudan (97), Tunisia (65.5) and North Yemen (24).

In the Mediterranean region, Bonn wants to spend a total of DM345 million in capital aid and DM13.8 million in technical assistance. The following states, apart from Israel, are to be on the receiving end: Portugal (DM74 million), Turkey (140) and Cyprus (63).

The framework plan for 1977 which was presented to the Development Aid Committee of the Bundestag envisages capital aid to the tune of DM2,577 million (compared with DM3,545 million in 1976).

On top of this, DM525 million has been earmarked for technical assistance. Most of this money will go to black Africa where, apart from those already mentioned, the following states will be among the recipients: Benin (DM2.25 million), Burundi (26), Ivory Coast (29), Gabon (1), Gambia (7), Ghana (48), Guinea-Bissau (4.1), Lesotho (15.5), Li-

beria (15), Madagascar (12), Malawi (27), Mali (31), Niger (26), Nigeria (3), Upper Volta (33), Ruanda (24), Senegal (30.5), Sierra Leone (16.5), Somalia (10.8), Swaziland (22), Togo (36) and Chad (5).

And in the East, Bonn's millions are to be distributed as follows: Afghanistan (DM33 million), Bangladesh (127), India (358), Nepal (32), Pakistan (100) and Sri Lanka (40).

The Far East recipients are: Burma (57), Indonesia (124.8), South Korea (42), Malaysia (5.5), Philippines (16), Thailand (28), West Samoa (2.5) and Tonga (3.4).

Several Latin American countries will again receive money from Bonn. Among them Bolivia which will get DM26 million in capital and technical aid, as well as the following nations: Brazil (11), Dominican Republic (7), El Salvador (8), Guatemala (10.7), Guayana (5), Haiti (12), Honduras (7), Jamaica (3.5), Columbia (47.9) and Nicaragua (6.8).

Helmut Wehner  
(Die Welt, 3 March 1977)

Handwritten Arabic text: كذا هو الحال

ENERGY

Solar energy could become the 'fuel' of the future



Were it not for solar energy, life on Earth would be impossible. Nature depends on an enormous extent on sunlight, and so does Man. Fossil fuels such as coal and oil are, when all is said and done, basically the result of solar radiation.

Yet Man has so far made little direct use of solar radiation, except, perhaps, in Israel, where hundreds of thousands of solar collectors are used to heat water.

In this part of the world energy has in the past been so inexpensive that it has not been worthwhile trying unduly hard to harness solar energy.

Yet there is every good reason for paying greater attention to this neglected alternative energy source, with an annual fifty million tons of heating oil consumed by householders in the Federal Republic.

Oil burnt for central heating is used to develop relatively low temperatures, and roughly half could be saved if solar energy were only harnessed more thoroughly. Even more substantial savings might be effected if suitable storage facilities were available.

Using solar energy instead of heating oil must be the primary objective, and some savings could already be effected by harnessing sunlight.

Experiments with solar collectors are the exception rather than the rule in this country, but that is not because they are technologically impossible. The idea of harnessing solar energy has just come extremely late in the day.

An installation for harnessing sunlight to heat water is simple enough to construct and can be made up with conventional materials.

In its simplest form the collector is a metal box with the side exposed to the Sun painted dull black. The greater the surface exposed to the sunlight, the faster the water in the box is heated.

By using sunlight directly in this way substantial amounts of heat can be harnessed, but in this part of the world sunlight is not such an ever-present commodity that the simplest device would prove sufficient.

So more efficient collectors have been devised that start to deliver the kilowatts as soon as the Sun rises, utilising up to 75 per cent of solar energy.

Developed by Philips, these collectors are not yet on sale. They consist of an outer glass tube in which, in a vacuum, an inner tube is inserted.

The outer tube is mirror-coated on the side opposite the Sun and rather like a camera lens on the other. Water runs through the inner tube and a number of these units are arranged in series on the roof.

They are connected to a collector which feeds the heated water into a heat-exchange tank. In the Philips show house in Aachen the storage tank has a capacity of more than forty cubic metres, or more than enough to heat a single-family home during a reasonably warm winter.

If low-efficiency collectors were used, a larger surface area would need to be covered, and even with a larger tank ad-

ditional heating would be required during the winter.

Yet hot water for washing and bathing could be supplied exclusively, with the aid of solar energy from early spring till late autumn, and the tank needed could be fairly small. One cubic metre would help out, two to three should meet the average household's needs. Will it join the bandwagon as it has done in the case of nuclear energy?

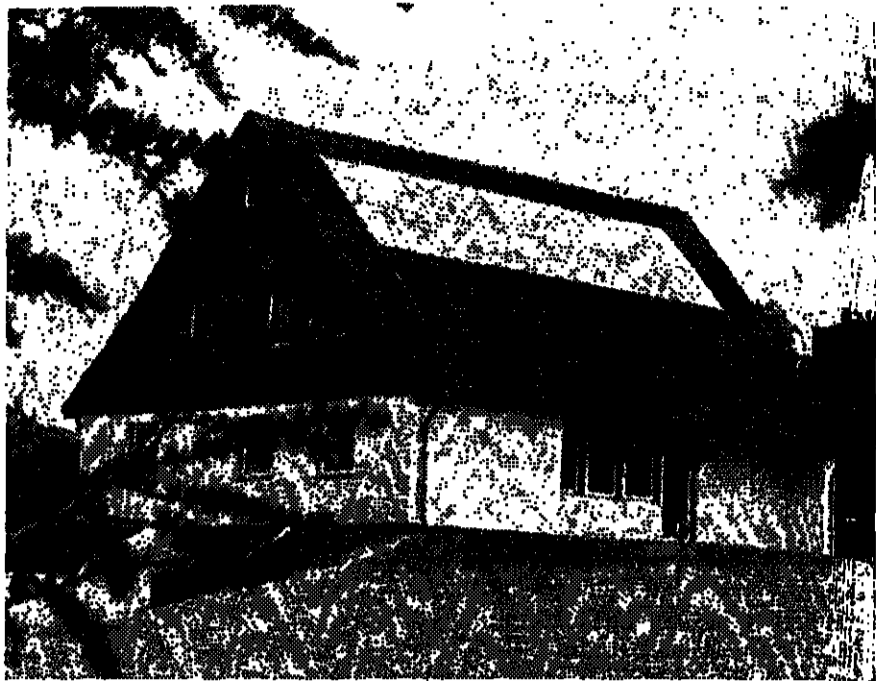
This would render a large number of electric and gas water heaters redundant, and if water is heated in the central heating boilers, oil or gas need not be used until the winter cold necessitates their use.

Collector efficiency is primarily a financial consideration. Besides, long runs are cheaper to manufacture. So what are now needed are designs that are both fairly efficient and can be manufactured in long runs.

What will happen remains to be seen, mind you, since each manufacturer is currently busy grinding his own axe.

Dornier, for instance, are banking on heat pipes, which would require additional heat exchangers. Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blöhm plan to heat the storage tank with freon, not water.

Most collectors are made of aluminium or galvanised sheet metal, and Philips too have decided that their next generation of collectors will not be made solely of glass.



A solar energy test house in Aachen

(Photo: dpa)

Very few firms, such as Zinco, can lay claim to practical experience of installing collectors, but a number of major firms, such as Okal and BBC, have joined forces to consider the problem from another angle. They are thinking in terms of designing houses off the peg with solar collectors ready installed in the roof.

So moves are in progress, and anyone who installs solar collectors in his roof can fairly claim to be a pioneer of a new source of energy. Solar energy is very much a political issue, however, as the recent second conference of the Solar Heating Association in Munich demonstrated. What does the government propose to do to encourage the development of solar energy? Experts are now wondering, and rightly so, where we might be today if the government had invested 20,000 million Deutschmarks in the development of solar energy rather than in taming the atom.

Christian Bartsch

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 5 April 1977)

New endurance testbed on rollers for railways in Munich

The railways, having been in business for 150 years or so, intend to modernise with a vengeance. Deutsche Bundesbahn, the German Federal Railways, are to inaugurate the most up-to-date experimental facility in the world at the end of this year or the beginning of next in Munich.

It will be a rolling testbed forming a major part of research backed by the Bonn Ministry of Research and Technology with a view to sounding out the limits of conventional rail transport.

This simulator, which is what the sophisticated device will be, is designed to aid research into the reciprocal relationship between locomotive wheels and permanent way at high speeds without having to build miles of special track for the purpose.

"The rolling testbed will meet a three-fold requirement," says Dr Karlheinz Althammer of the Bundesbahn's Munich research division. "It will be used for basic research into vehicle motion, superstructure design and trials of individual components and partial systems."

The testbed is also intended to prove that conventional rail transport is anything but antediluvian despite the attraction of hovertrain systems.

Experts are convinced that current speeds of 200 kilometres an hour (125mph) are by no means the maximum that can be reached using locomotives and rolling stock of conventional design.

Dr Althammer notes that the Bundesbahn has so far conducted little research into certain aspects of performance. Trains are designed for a lifespan

of thirty years, during which time they cover roughly fifteen times the distance between the Earth and the Moon, and there the matter rests.

With the aid of computers research is now to be intensified. This lifespan can be compressed into a relatively short period by means of computerised endurance tests on the testbed.

Wheels made of new materials will be put through their paces in this way. The steel wheels of a four-axle currently weigh three tons or so. Wheels made of new materials and alloys can reduce this deadweight by fifty per cent.

Thus a locomotive that now has ten waggons in tow should be able to handle eleven, which is an obvious gain in terms of hard cash. But, as Dr Althammer points out, years can pass before a new wheel has grown out of its teething troubles and passes trials with flying colours.

The testbed is a fair size, capable of handling vehicle up to thirty metres (98ft 6in) long, 4.30 metres (fourteen feet) wide and six metres (19ft 8in) tall.

None of the Bundesbahn's existing rolling stock exceeds these dimensions. The testbed has been designed with the proposed high-speed rail freight network in mind, which will handle containers into which standard commercial road vehicles are driven.

What is more, domestic manufacturers of outside rolling stock for export will be able to put their output through its paces before delivery.

On the testbed speeds of up to 500 kilometres an hour (300mph) will be possible, although such speeds will never

be reached on conventional permanent way. The maximum currently envisaged in normal use is 300 kilometres an hour (200mph)

Locomotives and rolling stock will run on rollers computer-programmed to simulate operational conditions. Computer estimates will be compared with testbed results.

Track geometry, as Bundesbahn engineers call it, will also be simulated. Rollers can be shifted hydraulically to simulate warped track and subsidence, not to mention bends and the like.

"It will be a far cry from proving grounds in the United States, France or Britain," says Dr Althammer, "where tracks are exactly symmetrical."

The testbed will be used to try out anything from individual wheels to fully laden 103 or 151 class six-axle locomotives, not to mention the provision for even larger and heavier units.

Danger signals will be tucked away in one corner of the process computer to order to sound the alarm and take the necessary action whenever a critical situation arises.

The powerhouse of the testbed generates a mere 5,000 kilowatts, which may not seem much. But it must be borne in mind that there will be no atmospheric resistance because the test vehicles will be freestanding but indoors.

Mention must be made of the testbed's foundations, which are specially designed to withstand the mechanical stresses that occur in operation.

The testbed proper is housed in a fourteen-ton cushioned foundation mounted to a further base section by means of 192 enormous steel springs and pneumatic springs.

Oscillation can thus be ideally controlled, leeway being provided by an amount of air pumped into the pneumatic springs.

Peter Reiner

(Der Tagesspiegel, 2 April 1977)

SEISMOLOGY

Gräfenberg observatory has world's most sensitive equipment



Gräfenberg seismological observatory, near Erlangen, Bavaria, is "unique in the quality of its equipment and the range and depth of readings taken," according to a research survey conducted by the Federal Republic Research Association.

Gräfenberg was inaugurated last year and certainly boasts a unique array of up-to-the-minute seismographs and digital data notation. Unlike other observatories of its kind, Gräfenberg is ideally equipped to pinpoint tremors of all kinds.

What is more, its equipment is designed to eliminate seismic interference, such as micro-tremors and man-made tremors that occur in the course of engineering projects.

Array arrangement, as it is called, enables Gräfenberg seismologists to conduct observations and research work that are beyond the scope and capacity of other seismological research centres.

Gräfenberg is run under the aegis of the Federal Republic Research Association (DFG) in conjunction with the Federal Institute of Geological Science and Raw Materials (BGR), Hanover.

The director of the observatory is Dr Hans-Peter Harjes of the BGR.

Nearly all the country's geophysics research institutes, of which, including the BGR, there are about a dozen, have joined forces in a terrestrial geophysics research group, which plans research with the aid of data supplied by Gräfenberg.

Gräfenberg also has close ties with the geophysics department of Zurich University of Technology, Switzerland. Dr Wielandt of Zurich designed the leaf-spring seismometer first used in Gräfenberg. This device enables research staff to cover the entire range of seismic waves.

The facts that can be ascertained from natural tremors about the structure and movements of the inner earth have not, by any stretch of the imagination, been exploited to the full.

Conventional seismographs normally register only short or long frequencies, with tremors not too far distant or of low intensity registering on short frequencies.

Besides, a single device used not to be

able to register all intensities. It could only be equipped to register either strong or weak tremors. Accurate location of the epicentre of a 'quake used also to be a problem.

In the course of the post-war arms race, with underground nuclear tests being held at regular intervals, seismology developed by leaps and bounds, with the financial outlay being met from defence budgets.

The United States set up a worldwide network of arrays, or seismographs located long distances apart but arranged in series in order to pinpoint tremor locations.

The Advanced Research Projects Agency, Washington, D. C., set up one such array in Gräfenberg, but these networks were designed only to register low-intensity tremors, since underground nuclear tests usually register no higher than five on the Richter scale.

In 1965 the United States began to phase out its Gräfenberg facility, which was taken over by this country as a central seismological observatory for scientific research purposes and equipped with the latest instruments and data processing equipment.

At present a large-scale array of instruments extending in two lines about fifty kilometres long that intersect west of Amberg is under installation.

In order to ensure that observation points are firmly anchored in the rock formations instruments are installed in holes up to five metres deep; otherwise subsoil disturbances might upset the readings.

At present five observation points are in operation, but nineteen in all are



Highly-sophisticated measuring equipment at the observatory

(Photo: Seismologisches Zentralobservatorium Gräfenberg)

planned as a seismic aerial 100 kilometres long. One of the units already in operation registers earth movements in all three directions; the others merely record vertical oscillations.

What is more, this array is designed to register the entire spectrum of tremor frequencies, which it immediately converts into digits that are relayed to Gräfenberg every fifty milliseconds.

The 'quake in Udine, Northern Italy, not long ago enabled Gräfenberg geophysicists to reach 132 decibels, equivalent to a range of one to four million between the slightest and most powerful tremor Gräfenberg is capable of registering.

The previous maximum range was one to 1,000 and sixty decibels respectively. Digital data relayed to Gräfenberg is

converted by computer into a seismogram.

Array arrangement and digital notation enable interference to be eliminated immediately and aerials to be homed in on the direction from which the tremors are coming.

Gräfenberg seismological observatory boasts equipment so sensitive that it is already capable of registering European tremors down to 3.5 on the Richter scale.

Scientific evaluation of data compiled will not be fully possible until all nine-ton observation points are operational however.

Once optimum accuracy is possible, Gräfenberg will be able to assess the seismic risk of any location in Europe. This is a factor of utmost importance in major construction projects, especially sensitive projects such as nuclear power stations.

Gräfenberg ought also to be able to state with greater certainty whether a tremor is the result of a nuclear test or not. The epicentre of natural tremors is usually fairly deep, and not a mere few hundred or 1,000 metres underground, so the latter category are almost certainly nuclear tremors.

The United States has started to set up a new worldwide network of 'quake observation points, with equipment housed in boreholes several hundred metres deep to cut out interference.

But this network will not use wide-frequency equipment, merely registering high and low frequencies on separate devices. So Gräfenberg will remain, for the foreseeable future, a unique research facility providing comprehensive tremor data.

Harald Steinert

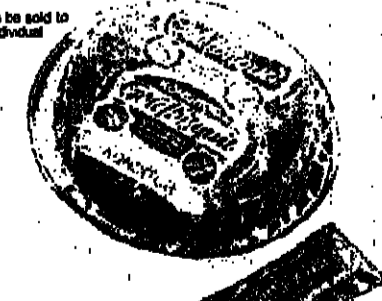
(Der Tagesspiegel, 2 April 1977)

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April 1977

## THE ARTS Art and the Media at Kassel *Documenta*

Media-critical awareness is the latest slogan. A society linked by electronic cables of one kind and another is in the offing, we are told, complete with the enticing prospect of participation and a reversal of the traditional roles of transmitter and receiver.

At work, there are very few sectors that have not already been transformed in one way or another by electronic data transmission. Newspaper and agency desks will shortly face drastic changes as a result.

Since electronics has indeed effected such far-reaching changes and so much has been written and said about the repercussions, it would be surprising if the arts were to remain unaffected by the change.

They have not, of course, and the new, media-conscious age is scheduled for proclamation at the forthcoming *Documenta*, the sixth art show of the name.

Art in the Media — the Media in Art will be the watchword of this year's *Documenta*, to be held in Kassel from 24 June to 2 October.

For 500 years images were a means of interpreting reality. For ten or fifteen years images, and I mean not only paintings, but also the entire printed, photographic and electronic output, have come to assume the proportions of a reality into themselves," says Manfred Schneckenburger, the artistic director of this year's *Documenta*.

"The relationship between image and reality, a relationship fundamental to art, has changed fundamentally," he adds. "Art is bound to respond to the change."

Comments such as these are somewhat vague, but as yet the most specific statements from Kassel on what is claimed to be a new awareness of the media on the artist's part.

This is only to be expected, since media orientation (as opposed to what, in the past, would have been orientation by genre or means of representation) has gained the upper hand in Kassel as the supremacy of a technocratic view of art.

The new approach is being promoted for the most part by an active group of Rhenish art managers who have been largely responsible for the new concept.

They include Lothar Romeln, the Social Democratic media expert, Cologne exhibition promoters Evelyn Weiss and Wulf Herzogenrath, Bonn jack-of-all-trades Klaus Honnef and, of course, Manfred Schneckenburger, who also used to be based in Cologne.

These, then, are the individuals who represent what might be termed the hard core of *Documenta '77*, although it is only fair to add that Wieland Schmied, Gerhard Bott and Eward Fry are also associated with the new look *Documenta* as leading museum staff.

These Rhenish media fans were fairly

unanimous in their views, putting paid to proposals for a critical review of what has been accomplished in a quarter of a century of unimpeded progress.

This year's *Documenta* cannot be accused either of requiring that art be of any use to life. Whatever exhibitors purport to express, they will have to submit to classification according to production techniques.

Evelyn Weiss and Klaus Honnef are responsible for painting and photography, Manfred Schneckenburger for the plastic arts and environment, Wieland Schmied for drawings, Gerhard Bott for utopian design, P. W. Jansen for film and Wolf Herzogenrath for video art.

Two of these sectors can be sure of public appeal from the outset. They are the photographic section, which extends back into the nineteenth century, and the drawings section, in which Wieland Schmied proposes to carry on where Werner Haftmann left off in his 1964 *Documenta* show.

In 1964 roughly a century of drawing was reviewed; this year a mere decade's output will be illustrated.

In theory at least, video art ought to appeal to a wider public. The use of the cathode ray tube and the link with video recorders must not, of course, automatically be associated with media criticism and socially-orientated media consciousness.

Electronics initially constitutes a new and used material now placed at the artist's disposal. It provides the artist with an opportunity of experimentation without the burdens imposed by tradition that form part and parcel of conventional means of presentation.

It is no coincidence that women, who are relatively new to the arts, are particularly keen on using the new medium.

So regardless whether or not this year's *Documenta* will be dominated by the technocrats, the gain in terms of information will surely prove substantial.

Kassel will also incorporate its usual surprises, such as a festival of pavement artists and the mysterious activities of Arnold Bode in the Hercules octagon high up on Wilhelmshöhe, outside the city.

The man who first inaugurated *Documenta* is now associated with the festival in no more than an honorary capacity, but he seems to have spotted a spare slot in the market — and financial prospects of capitalising on it.

*Gisela Bracker*  
(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 3 April 1977)

## Marburg's unique photo archives to be microfilmed

Marburg's unique photographic archives, inaugurated in 1913 and currently comprising roughly half a million photographs of works of art and historic monuments, are to be published on microfilm in Munich over the next five years.

Art historian Richard Hamann realised more than half a century ago that photography is an invaluable aid to the study of art. Just before the First World War he inaugurated a project that is now the largest of its kind in the world.

The Marburg photographic archives, which are affiliated to the university, have on file roughly 500,000 photographs of works of art, forty per cent German, sixty per cent European and overseas.

Annual additions amount to about a further 50,000 negatives. The emphasis is on architecture, but other sectors in which the Marburg archives are well stocked include sculpture and painting, arts and crafts, design and posters.

Marburg tries hard to cover the entire country with the exception of the Rhineland, which is covered by the Rhenish photographic archives. The Rhenish collection was transferred to Cologne in 1924 and currently incorporates about 200,000 negatives.

The Marburg microfilm index will combine the two, including 300,000 photos from Marburg and 200,000 from Cologne. So subscribers will be able to refer without much difficulty to any work of art on photographic file.

It is only fair to add, however, that coverage of art in the GDR is considerably less comprehensive than that of work housed or located in the Federal Republic.

If what you need is a photograph of a specific Romanesque capital, Gothic crucifixion, Baroque bowl or Romantic painting, you will no longer need to scour the archives and libraries.

Just open your Marburg files at the right microfilm (each containing 98 exposures) and aim the reading device at the right photo. If need be, you can project the exposure on to a screen like a conventional photographic slide.

Classification may initially prove problematic, since the archives are arranged topographically, then subdivided into four groups: urban architecture, sacred architecture, non-church architecture and (art) collections.

This indicates, incidentally, the extent

to which photographic records of architecture predominate.

As soon as the final instalment has been published, in 1981, an index will also appear — on microfilm. This will make it much easier to locate the material required.

This mammoth enterprise would not have proved possible had it not been for improvements in microfilm techniques not to mention the reading devices. It certainly goes beyond the scope of conventional printing techniques.

Klaus C. Saur of Verlag Dokumentation, the Munich publishers, reckons the venture would correspond to 500 volumes at 500 pages a time printed by conventional techniques.

Production costs would, he estimates, have totalled 45 million deutschmarks, whereas the microfilm work will be only two and a half million deutschmarks.

Mind you, it takes courage to leave a venture of this kind. Herr Saur feels that publishing in this day and age can no longer be a matter of delight. Printed paper, has had not only to lose the support of subscribers to a giant project, but also to persuade them of the advantages of microfilm techniques.

Besides, reading devices that reproduce microfiche material at all well as

few and far between, which is why frames have so far mainly been used for data purposes only, in which the quality of reproduction is not the chief consideration.

Reading equipment is not spectacularly expensive, however. A simple table-top model is claimed to cost 25 deutschmarks or so, while larger desks incorporating projection facilities cost at roughly 700 deutschmarks.

The complete microfilm file will cost 9,800 deutschmarks, plus value added tax, if paid in instalments over the five year period. If the full amount is paid on receipt of the first instalment, the subscription costs 1,000 marks less.

The project would not have been launched had it not been for the improvement in microfilm techniques and the courage and foresight of the publisher, but the Volkswagen Foundation also deserves its share of the credit for making the venture feasible.

As part of the foundation's cultural heritage programme adopted in 1973 a grant of 1.4 million deutschmarks has been placed at the Marburg archives disposal.

This grant will be used to pay the salaries of an additional staff of 10, which have been hired to classify the archives.

Both the editors and the publishers are confident of commercial success. Heusinger of the Marburg archives, one publisher and media agent, where will subscribe to the venture.

The microfilm files are also to meet the needs of art teachers of all kinds, not only collectors and art dealers, architects and school teachers.

In order to recoup the outlay will need to be sold. All things considered, this seems a realistic target.

## CINEMA

### Women take over the director's chair for three new films



Three films directed by women are due to be shown in the Federal Republic's cinemas soon. They were made by Helma Sanders, Heidi Genée and Karin Thome. But women directors are still viewed as something exotic and unusual.

Women are journalists, they make newspapers and are well on their way to becoming internationally known song-writers. They make fashions, they choreograph and they compete on television — in fact, women have never been more creative in the media than they are today.

But no matter how creative women are, they have largely remained barred from film directing. In fact, very few women have managed to gain a foothold as directors in the visual media as a whole.

They are being taken for granted in music, magazines, newspapers and books, but not in the production sector of television.

Only few women directors have actually managed to become established in this field, among them Ulla Stöckel (*Kittelkind* - Bucket Child - *Sieben Leben hat die Katze* - Seven Lives has the Cat), Marianne Lüdtke (*Lohn und Liebe* - wages and love), Helma Sanders and Erika Runge.

And even more of a rarity are women among film-makers. In the United States, Ida Lupino, one of the first women directors, was considered successful, though not a pioneer.

In France, Agnes Varda (*Le Bonheur*) helped for a short time to shape the style of *Nouvelle Vague*; and today Nadine Trintignant is about to make a name for herself as a director.

In Italy, Liliana Cavani (*The Night Porter*) and Lina Wertmüller (*Pasquillino Stettellebellezze*) have attracted attention with their provocative works.

A new Cavani film about Nietzsche (*Beyond Good and Evil*) and two films made by Lina Wertmüller — which have already met with extraordinary success in America — are to be shown in our cinemas this year. In Sweden, Mai Zetterling has been directing successfully for years.

This country has considered May Spils (*Zur Sache, Schätzchen* - Come to the Point, Sweetie) and Danièle Huillet (wife and co-director of Jean-Marie Straub) as being representative of women as directors. Their names have meanwhile been joined by others — among them Jeanne Moreau who managed to realise her film-making ambitions — but this does not change the fact that the few women directors can only consider themselves pioneers.

This makes it even more noteworthy that this year will see the screening in West German cinemas of three new films by this country's women directors. They are Helma Sanders' Kleist film *Heinrich oder der Tod in Deutschland* (*Heinrich or Death in Germany*), Karin Thome's *Also es war so* (It Was Like This) and Heidi Genée's *Grete Minde*.

Helma Sanders' film from television and her Kleist film was partially

financed by a major TV network. But, as opposed to her TV films such as *Die letzten Tage von Gomorrah* (The Last Days of Gomorrah), *Erdbeben in Chile* (Earthquake in Chile), *Unten Pflaster* (Beneath the Pavement) and *Shirins Hochzeit* (Shirin's Wedding), *Heinrich* was made with the cinema in mind.

The producer of the film is Regina Ziegler whose *Sommergäste* (Summer Guests), directed by Peter Siel, was a box office success apart from being lauded by the critics. Her *Die Brüder* (The Brothers), directed by Wolf Gremm, was also reasonably successful.

Helma Sanders, who finds that "women's stories are indecent", insists on being treated like any other director. Says she: "I like them to occupy themselves more with my films than with my sex! One of the many humiliations one experiences is that one is never taken as seriously as a man would be, and that's degrading."

The Kleist film (budget DM12 million) was anything but an easy undertaking. It was shot in Paris, Switzerland and the GDR (Potsdam), and Helma Sanders was fully aware of the fact that Regina Ziegler having put up DM350,000 in risk capital, she had to abide by the laws governing successful cinema production.

Says Helma Sanders: "When working for the cinema one develops a much closer relationship to one's task. One is afraid of running foul of the box office requirements. What I like to do is to make a film which people enjoy seeing and I put my faith in the fact that people in cinemas can concentrate better than they do when looking at TV."

The Kleist material has occupied Frau Sanders for twelve years. For her, Kleist exemplifies the "mercilessness of Germany vis-a-vis its children." She considers what she made a "painful, lustrous and sad film" as well as a "painful homage" to a country which was an occupied nation then, as it is today.

Helma Sanders sees in Kleist a longing for death which spans from Georg Büchner all the way to Ulrike Meinhof. Her *Heinrich* is a "very radical film with the large vistas of its time."

Karin Thome has worked even longer than Helma Sanders (namely ten years) in the male-dominated field of filmmaking. She began her career in television, eventually becoming director Uwe

one of West Germany's most expensive films this year was Heidi Genée's *Grete Minde*. The cost of DM25 million was borne in roughly equal parts by a major TV network, a film subsidy programme and the private sector.

The producer Peter Genée (husband of Heidi) stated that the cost of the film could be likened to some Hollywood productions, taking conditions in this country into account. The investment seems to have paid off, since CIC, one of America's largest distributors, has included the film in its programme.

*Grete Minde* is set in a 17th century small town of Saxony and tells the story of a girl (Katerina Jakob) whose family is turning her life into hell for religious reasons. Eventually Grete runs away with a neighbourhood boy, joins a group of puppet players, has a child and one day returns to the small town where events



Helma Sanders (Photo: Bruno Waske)

Brandner's (*Ich liebe dich, ich öde dich* - I Love You, I Kill You) assistant.

She acted in *Supergirl* and *Fremde Stadt* (Strange City), both of which were directed by her husband. From 1967 onwards she repeatedly presented works of her own, consisting primarily of short films, TV features (for example about Pasolini), the full-length film *Über Nacht* (Overnight) and the documentary *America*.

Also *es war so* was produced by Karin Thome herself with the support of the Young German Film Committee and a major TV network.

The film tells the story of a boy who supposedly can neither read or write because he is too stupid. He is, however, not stupid but only poor.

Columbine (Anna Karina) and Harlequin (Ulli Lommel) take the boy on a fantastic trip to fairyland. Will, the boy, seems to be the main character of the nightmare ideas that have been troubling him. And in the end he achieves what had seemed impossible.

Karin Thome herself terms this sensitive fairytale a "gay conjurer's comedy". According to her, she tried to show how self-confidence is achieved by "providing scope for the imagination." Once this has been achieved, the desire to learn comes of its own accord. Says Karin Thome: "A poor child is not stupid — it is only that the people consider the poor stupid."

Also *es war so* is scheduled to be shown at the Berlin Film Festival.

Karin Thome's next film will be *Déjà Vu*, "the sufferings of a woman plagued by fears and psycho-horror. But in the end the heroine proves able to accept reality."

Asked whether the fact that she is a woman made it more difficult in the final analysis is the product itself.

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escalate in such a manner that Grete sets the town alight.

Says Heidi Genée: "I wanted to depict Grete Minde as a person with a natural sense of justice who is determined to live by its dictates. And because she is a girl of character she is pushed into an outsider role, and society no longer gives her a chance."

Frau Genée has been attracted to this short story by Fontane since her youth, although she had to extend the story's middle part (Grete Minde's life as an outsider) in the film.

Heidi Genée has long been considered one of this country's film industry's best cutters. Her last work in this capacity were films like *Lina Broake*, *Berlinger* and *Nordsee ist Nordsee* (North Sea is Murder Sea).

Asked why she waited so long before progressing to directing films, Frau Genée said that she simply never found the time for it.

When asked about possible problems in asserting herself as a woman she said, "I never had any problems resulting from the fact that I am a woman. It is immaterial whether a film is directed by a man or a woman. I believe that I was accepted as a director because what I did made sense. I was not faced with the necessity of asserting myself."

It was not out of a feeling of insecurity, but out of perfectly natural good fellowship that Heidi Genée showed her film to her male colleagues among the directors before the cutting was completed. She found this extremely helpful.

Such screenings are done as a matter of course in Munich. Incidentally, Heidi Genée does not think much of experiments and would like to make marketable films.

*Grete Minde* fills the bill in this respect: Says producer Genée: "The ladies who saw the film left the cinema with their eyes red from crying." Heidi Genée's next project is a comedy.

The three new films completed this year and their women directors want to be judged on merit. But this is not easy to achieve as long as women directors remain the exception rather than the rule.

It is, however, interesting that Helma Sanders, Heidi Genée and Karin Thome do not only want to use the medium film in order to depict the situation of women in society.

Their self-assurance as directors is such that they feel that they can forgo restricting themselves to women's films.

It will be interesting to see how the public will react to these — both formally and as regards their subject matter — widely differing films by our women directors.

*Eckhart Schmidt*  
(Deutsche Zeitung, 1 April 1977)

Handelsblatt

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May Spils (Photo: Schönmel-Film/Interpress)

MEDICINE

How doctors can diagnose disease by looking at a face

The physician's seemingly magic ability to diagnose a patient's ailment by looking at his face has now become a subject of scientific discussion.

The discussion centres around the question whether it is possible to deduce from a young person's face that he will one day come down with cancer. Such a diagnosis is certainly possible with regard to other ailments.

Thus, for instance, two deep furrows around the corners of the mouth, a square chin, thin sensitive lips combined with a pointed nose and narrow

Operation can curb excessive sweating

Köln: Stadt-Anzeiger

Excessive perspiration is a disease and can become a major problem for many people.

A Berlin bus driver was threatened with dismissal because his sweating became an imposition on his passengers. In Düsseldorf, an 8-year old girl had to be barred from school because half a pint of sweat per hour dripped off her hands.

Both of these people have now been helped by surgery performed by the Düsseldorf neurosurgeon Raimund Wittmoser. The surgeon reported on the operations at the Karlsruhe Cosmeticians' Conference of 26 March.

The novel type of surgery calls for a severing of the sympathetic nerve which triggers perspiration. Before the operation, the perspiration centres must be exactly located.

A probe is inserted into the patient through a 7 to 10 mm incision in the chest or the abdominal cavity. A miniature colour TV camera inserted with the probe projects the picture onto a screen, enabling the surgeon to obtain the pictorial view necessary to electrically seal off the nerve which triggers the perspiration process.

Although the success of the operation is unqualified, Dr Wittmoser stresses that a relapse is possible after one year. The National Health System bears the cost of the operation in cases of pathological sweating.

Professor K. Salfeld, head of the Minden Dermatological Clinic, reported on another type of surgery intended only to eliminate unsightly sweat stains under the armpits.

In this surgery, which is carried out under local anaesthesia only, that piece of skin which contains the largest concentration of sweat glands is removed and the remaining parts of the skin are sewn together. All that remains is an inconspicuous scar in the armpit.

Neither of the two operations affects the skin's temperature equalisation ability. They only reduce or remove nervous anticipation sweating which has been known to drive people to suicide.

Hans Halfeld

(Köln: Stadt-Anzeiger, 28 March 1977)

nostrils indicate that the person concerned is prone to stomach problems.

Says Professor Ludwig Demling of Erlangen: "Before I look into a patient's stomach I take a long, close look at his face. It is in the face that many doctors of a bygone era discerned things which our technologically orientated doctors of today can no longer see."

Professor Demling is also thoroughly familiar with the gall bladder type of person. This is usually a woman of friendly nature (women are twice as often affected by gall problems as men), somewhat plump, mostly married and the mother of several children.

She has a good sense of humour and plenty of common sense.

Hormone research has meanwhile proved why it is this particular type of woman who has a particular predisposition for such problems. It seems that an excess of the sex hormone oestrogen promotes the formation of gallstones.

Rheumatologists have also come up with what might be termed a typical patient. He is athletic, looks somewhat older than his actual age although he tries to give the impression of being a young man through gestures and manner of speech. His face looks beatific, frequently expressing joy and sorrow simultaneously.

The thyroid sufferer reveals his condition long before it has been clinically established by his impatience, erratic behaviour and liveliness. He is unable to remain passive, has difficulty listening to others and is always full of ideas, although he gives up easily.

The performance orientated go-getter and career type is made of entirely different stuff. The Americans call him a "A-type" person, and he is supposed to be predestined for a heart attack.

According to the German cardiologists

Until not very long ago dermatology was the wallflower of medicine. Skin diseases and those who cured them rarely made the headlines.

But all this has changed since the Seveso disaster when poisonous substances from a chemical factory in Northern Italy contaminated the environment, with disastrous consequences to the people in the vicinity.

Now, following this event, everybody knows that the skin is our largest organ and provides contact between the entire body and its environment.

Says Professor G.K. Steigleder, chairman of the 31st Congress of the German Dermatological Society which met in Cologne recently: "The healthy skin's ability to filter out noxious substances in the environment and the damaged skin's absorption of such substances sound the alarm which must be heeded by those responsible for the development of our environment."

A wide range of subjects came up for discussion at the Congress. They extended from allergies all the way to corrective dermatology. In the course of the Congress it became clear how much of a burden the environment can impose on our skins and how changing living habits create new problems for medicine.

A typical example is mycosis (fungi

Golthard Schettler of Heidelberg and Max J. Halhuber, this type is also overweight, has high blood pressure, is prone to diabetes and smokes too much.

It is generally believed that those prone to cancer and those with a predisposition for heart attacks are antipodes. American medical literature also indicates that the "B-type", who is less dynamic than the "A-type" and therefore exposed to less stress, is more likely to become a victim of cancer. It can therefore be concluded that the quiet and introverted who try to avoid problems are most likely to fall prey to cancer.

Professor Helmut Freyberger of the Hannover Medical School considers such classifications somewhat over-simplified. Although he agrees with the description of those who are deemed to be prone to heart attacks, he was unable to find any

Continued on page 13

'Muscle' pill cancer tests

The German Cancer Research Centre in Heidelberg has embarked on research to establish whether muscle-building hormones promote cancer.

According to the Centre, the project will begin shortly. It will be based primarily on the study of domestic and foreign literature on the subject and on experiments with animals as well as epidemiological tests.

The project was triggered by mounting discussions about the health hazards these hormones might entail for athletes.

A spokesman of the Centre pointed out that there had been many warning voices, but that most scientists act as if there were no hazards at all or as if the effects of these drugs were only "temporary impediments to the liver functions" at the very worst. As a result, the spokesman said, it was high time to tackle the problem scientifically.

(Köln: Stadt-Anzeiger, 22 March 1977)

Blood clots dissolved with high frequency sound

DIE WELT

Doctors in Bonn have developed a method of dissolving blood clots by the use of high frequency sound, thus eliminating the need for an operation.

Clots in the blood vessels lead to obstructions resulting in thrombosis. The deposit of particles which eventually form the clot on the inner wall of the vessels is promoted by pathologic processes in the cells of the veins.

Veins and arteries can be affected; thrombosis in the leg veins is the most frequent.

A medical research team of the University's Polyclinic, headed by Professor F. Krüger, in cooperation with the Technical College of Aachen, has succeeded in dissolving blood clots with surgery.

The magic key is high frequency sound which cannot be heard by human ear. A probe is inserted into the blood vessel and the clot is dissolved; the sound generated. The fragments are then sucked away.

In animal experiments on 45 anaesthetised dogs the scientists removed clots in the pelvic region by means of the sound probe. The clots dissolved within three to ten days, according to Professor Gustav Trübstein of the Bonn Clinic. There were no side effects worth mentioning.

This method is to be used on human beings in the near future. Its advantage lies in the fact that the probe can be used to establish whether muscle-building vessel without need for surgery, and the total operation lasts only 10 to 20 minutes.

(Die Welt, 19 March 1977)

Dermatologists warn of environmental dangers

Infection). According to Professor Steigleder, this disease can have two causes.

Says he: "Animal mycoses had become rare in industrial areas, but since the introduction and the spreading of toy animals (dogs, cats, guinea pigs and hamsters) more and more zoo-mycoses are being transferred to people - especially children - and frequently these mycoses are wrongly analysed as eczema, with disastrous consequences.

"If these fungoid diseases are treated only with cortisones they alter their symptoms and become even more difficult to diagnose. This results in further inadequate treatment and finally in a genuine eczema and increased light-sensitivity of the skin."

The reason for the startling increase in genital mycosis is primarily attributable to changes in the carbohydrates metabolism which is largely due to the Pill. As a result, many women cannot be cured of their discharge due to yeast fungi as long as they remain on the Pill. Although fungi can be found anywhere, reduced resistance due to changes

in the carbohydrates metabolism leads to a protracted infection.

But fungoid infections also serve as indicators of other diseases such as diabetes even before laboratory tests provide a diagnosis. Such "fungi promoting" pre-diabetic stages occur with most people as soon as they become overweight. As a result, potions and lotions do not suffice to cure such infections and must be linked with a weight-reducing diet.

Another major problem of dermatologists is allergies. It is said that cases of allergy have increased, but this cannot be definitely ascertained since it might simply be due to the fact that we are in a better position today to diagnose allergies.

But therapy lags behind sophisticated diagnostic methods - especially in cases of contact allergies.

Says Professor Steigleder: "The problem is not so much the use of new substances, but the frequent and widespread use of extremely simple everyday chemical compounds. It is therefore very hard - if not impossible - to cure certain allergies."

Allergies and mycoses are not only a challenge for the 800 dermatologists who gathered in Cologne... they show how much we are at the mercy of our environment. Werner Thumshilg

(Münchener Merkur, 29 March 1977)

EDUCATION

Sex education: A catalogue of guidelines and failures

A voluminous and comprehensive reference work on sex education in Federal Republic schools has recently been presented by Norbert Kluge.

Close to a decade ago the state Ministers of Education in the Federal Republic decided to give general recognition to a hitherto neglected area of teaching, namely sex education. On 3 October 1968 they issued their "Recommendations on Sex Education in Schools", thus bringing to an end a long and heated debate.

But although the discussion between impassioned leftist student groups and the established school bureaucracy came to an end, the "Recommendations" opened new perspectives for the future. While admissible in our schools, sex education has not progressed beyond timid experiments.

But the days when this subject caused school scandals are over. And over is also the time when parents organised wide-spread protests against the schools' enlightenment zeal while students demanded wholehearted commitment to a necessary cause by our education authorities.

Thus the one-time claim on the part of sex education to the status of a motivating force in school reforms in general became a thing of the past.

The abovementioned book by Norbert Kluge provides an accurate documentation of the issue as a whole. Not only does it contain a complete collection of all guidelines issued by the individual states (until 1975), but it also presents comments and critiques which could

Continued from page 12

character traits that would indicate a predisposition to cancer.

It has been found that, as opposed to healthy people, potential victims of cancer usually give the impression of despair and hopelessness. The Americans speak of a "giving-up-syndrome" which precedes actual illness by many years.

But Professor Fryberger considers this observation insufficient as evidence of a specific cancer personality. According to him, the hope of being able to diagnose cancer long before it manifests itself has not materialised as yet.

Herbert L. Schröder (Die Welt, 28 March 1977)

DIE ZEIT

hitherto only be found by perusing numerous specialised publications.

It is particularly meritorious that Herr Kluge included in his compendium certain programmatic drafts on the subject of sex education which were previously only accessible to insiders. He has thus rescued these documents from oblivion.

The book contains such documents as the 1949 guidelines published in Hamburg by the Work Group for Sex Education, the Berlin guidelines of 1959 and those of Hesse of 1967. All these guidelines make it clear that the recommendations of the state Ministers of Education were by no means "pioneer work" and they can certainly not be considered the Magna Carta of sex educationalists.

As Herr Kluge put it, "They missed the boat so far as a progressive new concept is concerned from the very beginning of sex education." They failed in their main task, namely to provide a sound legal basis for sex education as well as guidelines for a uniform handling of this subject throughout the Federal Republic.

The "Recommendations" caused a great deal of confusion and insecurity among teachers because they wanted sex education based on the so called "general teaching principle". This having been made a binding principle, all subsequent guidelines put forward by the individual states met with enormous difficulties.

"Sex education at school," said education ministers in 1968, "is not tied to a specific subject, but takes place in various subjects."

This caused school authorities in the different states to apply varying interpretations to these guidelines without being able to come up with a distinct form and content for sex education.

The 1970 Hamburg guidelines stated that "since sex education is not a school subject, but an educational principle, it has to be provided within the framework of a number of subjects."

The authors of the guidelines - as if they had then already suspected that all this would give rise to confusion - made a point of adding: "This poses difficult problems in educational practice. But it can be expected that the various

school classes and types of school will be in a position to find suitable forms of cooperation between the various subject teachers."

This expectation has failed to materialise so far, and the whole thing remained wishful thinking as an empirical study carried out in Hamburg proves.

In order to secure effective sex education through differing subjects the Lower Saxony guidelines of 1969 stated: "Some subjects provide an opportunity for sex education and the discussion of related topics. Such opportunities must be seized."

The "Preliminary Guidelines for Sex Education in Specifically Chosen Schools" of Baden-Württemberg read as follows: "Because sex education is not the teaching of sexology it does not take place as a special subject but as an educational principle in all subjects."

Northrhine-Westphalia attempted in 1974 to escape the general confusion by a novel act of mental acrobatics, saying: "Sex education is neither a subject nor a principle, but a compulsory educational objective."

But so far it has failed to become a "compulsory educational objective" in all states of the Federal Republic.

The malaise in the sector of sex education is largely due to the teaching

Sexualerziehung als Unterrichtsprinzip - Empfehlungen, Richtlinien, Stellungnahmen, compiled by Norbert Kluge; published by Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, Darmstadt, 1976; 493 p., DM 91.

principle whereby education must be divided into various subjects, demanding of the teacher that he piece this motley together like a jigsaw puzzle, thus providing uncertainty.

This demand which has been put forward in all "Recommendations" of the ministers of education as well as in the state guidelines, not only overtaxes the teachers' specialised knowledge, but it also leads to a loss of interest in sex education.

Since the educational principle does not provide the teachers with a special time slot for sex education, they find it easier to neglect the subject altogether. It is an old educational truism that such educational tenets amount to a state funeral for education itself.

Norbert Kluge's reference work is the balance sheet of years of failure and no more than a memento of many unfulfilled promises. His compendium would not be worth the DM91 if it did not provide impulses to ponder why a proper system of sex education has failed to develop in our schools.

Karlheinz Lutzmann (Die Zeit, 1 April 1977)

School should be fun and not a bore, says doctor

Many parents believe that their child is overtaxed even in elementary school. Stress at school is used as a ready excuse for many a shortcoming on the part of the pupil - shortcomings which earlier generations attributed simply to laziness or lack of intelligence.

Professor Klaus Betke, Director of the Pediatric University Clinic in Munich, attributes failure at school to over-intellectual teaching methods and to the fact that school is simply no longer fun.

Until the age of puberty, says Professor Betke, it is impossible to overtax a child - be it physically or mentally. The child stops working of its own accord as soon it is faced with tasks that exceed its ability.

But children enjoy learning as long as this learning process is fun and interests them. As soon as the presentation of the subject becomes boring they simply rebel and stop trying.

Professor Betke sees the greatest shortcoming in our school system in the fact that the schools are not only disinterested in making learning fun, but that they in fact go out of their way to make it a bore.

As a result, Professor Betke recommends educational reforms in elementary schools that would remedy this situation. The school, he says, must take into account the peculiarities of pupils at different stages of their development and in different age groups.

Children who constantly have to deal with material which they are unable to grasp and digest must of necessity be listless and unhappy.

Another major shortcoming of our educational setup is the marking system. What we mark in our schools is not performance, but the failure to perform. As a result it would be a great deal better to motivate children to collect merit marks rather than punish them by demerits.

The widespread discontent in and with our schools is spreading even further in direct proportion to the parents' increasing performance expectations. On top of the regular day-to-day stress at school, the children now also suffer for fear of disappointing their parents.

Their reactions to parental admonishments are usually cheeky replies. And sensitive children frequently develop behavioural disturbances, bite their finger nails and tend to psychosomatic ailments. These symptoms usually disappear once puberty sets in. PAM

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 27 March 1977)

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**MIGRANT WORKERS**

## More liberal attitude urged towards immigrant workers

Life has undeniably grown more problematic for migrant workers, known in German as "guest workers", now the economy is no longer booming to the extent that used almost to be taken for granted.

Rotation and integration are the two sides of the coin, with rotation embodying the principle that migrant workers, having made their contribution towards the country's economic development, can now be sent packing. Integration, one need hardly say, has proved little more than a meaningless phrase.

Between these two extremes fates have been sealed with the utmost in economic severity, uncushioned for the most part by even a modicum of community relations.

Even in the middle of a recession, with an embargo on the enrolment of migrant workers from countries outside the Common Market, there is a greater need than ever to devote thought to how best to alleviate inevitable hardships that represent an indisputable challenge to us all.

It is high time the general public adopted a different attitude towards migrant workers, admittedly a tough proposition with unemployment at its present, relatively high level, and even higher time, perhaps, for a change in outlook on the part of the authorities.

Most crucial provisions of the Aliens Act empower the authorities to take whatever action is involved should they see fit, which means in effect that officialdom enjoys almost boundless discretionary powers.

If the civil servant concerned sees fit to do so, he may or may not issue a residence permit, may or may not impose restrictions or a ban on political activities and may or may not use his discretionary powers in respect of deportation orders, protective custody prior to deportation and any of seventeen penal regulations.

In other words, officialdom has substantial leeway at its disposal, alarmingly so in many respects because discretionary powers constitute a tacit invitation to discriminate against foreign nationals.

Treatment of aliens ought to be more liberal and less restrictive than it is at present as a general rule. Legal provisions certainly allow of more even-handed interpretation, particularly, where residence permits are concerned.

The Federal Republic has for some time attracted immigrants, and its legal provisions, especially their interpretation, ought to bear this in mind.

Mind you, a fair number of migrant workers are not necessarily interested in integration. Take, for instance, those who come to this country with a limited objective such as specialised training or earning a nest egg with which to start a business back home.

There are, on the other hand, a large number of migrant workers who originally came to the Federal Republic merely to earn a living, but have since lived and worked here for years and years.

Their children have grown up here, speak only German and are strangers in their parents' countries of origin. Yet these youngsters are no longer entitled

to live in the Federal Republic once they reach the age of sixteen and have to return to a country in which they have no roots whatever. This, moreover, is but one example of the injustices that do occur.

Integration proposals are not universally satisfactory, of course.

Take, for instance, the idea of allowing migrant workers the right to vote, if not in general elections then at least in local government elections.

This proposal has been championed mainly by the trade unions, no doubt with a view to canvassing new members from among the migrant community. But the enfranchisement of migrant workers, even a partial franchise, is not a good idea.

There are sound reasons why only German nationals are entitled to vote in elections, be they Bundestag, state assembly or local government elections. This, when all is said and done, is a universal constitutional provision.

Besides, it would be problematic, to say the least, if migrant workers who are frequently unacquainted with the German language, let alone German customs, were to have a say in communal decisions of major import, such as whether or not to build a new hospital.

This might well poison the atmosphere rather than contribute towards clearing the air. What is more, the country would then be liable to a largely uncontrollable degree of infiltration by, say, Communists or Fascists.

On the other hand advisory councils of foreign residents set up to advise and

be consulted by local councils; in such cities have proved extremely useful.

Within the European Community the heads of State and government appointed a commission in 1974 to consider whether Common Market nationals ought not to be granted the right to vote in their country of residence.

A draft submitted by the Brussels EEC Commission in 1976 recommended granting all EEC nationals who live in another Common Market country for five years the right to vote at local elections in their new home.

In this country the objections raised to this proposal are mainly constitutional in nature. Both Basic Law, the 1949 Bonn constitution, and the constitutions of the Federal states limit the franchise of the electorate as conventionally understood.

This legal state of affairs might be amended at some later stage. The amendment may even merit consideration, but not just yet.

The principle of rotation, inhuman as it so often can be, ought to be abandoned as far as can responsibly be permitted. Restrictive policies towards migrant workers ought to be jettisoned and replaced by integration in cases where migrants can fairly be seen to have integrated themselves already.

Foreign residents of ten or fifteen years' standing who have achieved a modicum of integration ought to be granted naturalisation without further ado, should they so wish. They would then automatically be entitled to the vote.

It would, however, be foolish in the extreme to oblige people to take out naturalisation papers, as it were, in order to evade the net of restrictions on aliens.

Ernst Müller-Meiningen jr  
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 30 March 1977)

**SPORT**

## Squash, the game that really keeps players on their toes



My legs were as heavy as lead and I gasped for breath as though I had been through a gruelling training schedule. My pulse was doing overtime at 150.

Yet a glance at my watch was enough to demonstrate that I had spent a bare quarter of an hour training for squash. Chris Davies, a Scots trainer at Hamburg Tennis and Squash Club, had sent me dashing like a scalded cock round the centre court.

He was still as cool as a cucumber, having timed and angled his shots so as to make me do the legwork. "Let's have a break," I just managed to gasp.

Sports medics reckon three quarters of an hour's squash is equivalent to two hours or so of lawn or hard court tennis, to a morning's golf or 5,000 metres round the track. It sounds like the ideal way of sweating off a few pounds.

Yet Ronny Rothenberger, Federal Republic squash champion and proprietor of the Hamburg club, will hear nothing of the idea that squash can be mentioned in one breath with sauna, sweat and slimming.

"Squash is first and foremost a fun sport combining the advantages of other disciplines, such as tennis, badminton or billiards," he says. "But it involves so much motion that the demands on the heart and circulatory system and your powers of concentration result in a feeling of pleasant physical fatigue."

Ronny Rothenberger, one of 10,000 squash fans in the Federal Republic, ought to know. Squash for him combines business and pleasure, and the outlay for a squash court is substantially lower than for a tennis court - roughly 60,000 Deutschmarks per court as opposed to 150,000.

A squash court is 32ft by 21ft and enclosed by bare walls on all four sides. The far wall has one line fifteen feet and another six feet above the ground, which is parquet floored. Balls may rebound from the rear wall to a height of seven feet.

The game involves two players (or pairs) lobbing or volleying a hollow rubber ball weighing one ounce against the far wall. The squash racquet is roughly the same size and shape as a badminton racquet.

The ball must rebound from the far wall after each stroke and may only hit the ground once between strokes, but whether you hit the ball straight back at the far wall or allow it to ricochet off a side wall or the rear wall like the cushion of a billiard table is entirely up to you. The possibilities are unlimited.

There are no limits to the individual player's imagination in the choice and angle of shots, but physical and mental powers are, of course, limited. At full speed the deceptively small black rubber ball can reach between 60 and 125 mph, while it barely rebounds from the far wall if just gently lobbed.

Speed and endurance are a must for players. You must dash one second and grind to a halt the next. Your powers of concentration are taxed to the utmost as the ball ricochets up and down the court. Both players are kept on the move. Energies soon flag.

After a quick breather Chris Davies demonstrated the basic approach to squash in a short game (games go to nine points). He volleyed the ball against the far wall at full pelt, making it travel so fast that I hardly had time to return the service, then he lobbed it so gently that it remained virtually glued to the wall, leaving me nowhere near the mark and unable to reach it in time.

I reckoned I now had the hang of the game and decided to give him a taste of his own medicine. I just managed to reach the ball in time, but Davies hammered it back up and down the court and whenever I thought I must surely have caught him napping, there he was, ready and waiting.

He was like the tortoise in the fable of the hare and the tortoise. He didn't seem to move around much, but he was always there before me. I gave up and decided to call it a day. This time the training session had lasted half an hour.

Squash is a sport for people who do not have too much time to spare? Sports medics advise against this assumption. People who are not in the peak of condition cannot keep up with the pace.

Squash is hard work and a severe test of the heart and circulatory system. Its stop and go can wreak havoc with the vertebrae and joints. But in moderation its advantages are undeniable. Squash is certainly not hard to learn.

Before long the beginner has the sat-



(Photo: Nordbild)

isfaction of hitting the ball, and making it rebound (which is easier said than done). You can ring the changes with the rebound from all four walls, so variation and improvisation are at a premium.

Racquets and balls are relatively inexpensive, costing from fifty Deutschmarks upwards per racquet and three marks or so per ball. Squash players wear tennis gear, but shirt, shorts and a pair of sneakers will do the trick. Courts cost between sixteen and twenty marks an hour, or half this amount if you share with a partner.

"Treat yourself to a few hours' enjoyment, have a game of squash," says Ronny Rothenberger. It is not the most original of slogans but he reckons it should fit the bill.

To judge by the figures quoted by Niels Härtel, secretary of the Federal Republic Squash Rackets Association (DSRV), he may well be proved right.

Squash did not gain a foothold in the Federal Republic until 1968, but Hamburg alone already boasts five squash centres, which usually include a swimming pool, sauna and solarium.

Over the country as a whole there are nearly forty squash centres - in Berlin and Bodrum, Hanover and Stuttgart,

planning to set up points of contact in Kerala to aid reintegration as they have already helped to do in Indonesia and South Korea.

At least one Ministry will need to deal with the problem sooner or later, since the nurses will have to learn how to make do with less technology and cater for other complaints than they have been used to in this country.

Herr Koenen needs cash from Bonn to finance this retraining scheme, but at this prospect he sounds a more cheerful note. "That, at least," he comments "would be bona fide development aid."

Hartmut Schergel  
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 23 March 1977)

Munich, Cologne and Brunswick, to name but a few.

Ten thousand people regularly play squash and this year their number is expected to double. Squash seems sure to make further progress because, as Ronny Rothenberger points out, "smaller tennis clubs can more easily afford to instal squash courts than indoor tennis courts for the winter season."

Besides, squash is a less expensive alternative to tennis in the big cities. It offers greater variety too. But this country still has a long way to go before it can vie with Australia, where more than two million people play the game, or Britain, where there are one and a half million squash players, or even Pakistan, which boasts some of the world's best players.

Squash is played in over forty countries and an application was made by Canada last year to include it as a new Olympic discipline, but the likelihood of this ever happening is remote as yet.

Squash is not played at all behind the Iron Curtain and the East bloc countries vetoed the game at the crucial meeting of the International Olympic Committee.

Where this country is concerned one basic problem of gaining ground has yet to be solved. Training facilities for young people are not provided systematically. Families must also be catered for more directly. Keeping tired executives in trim is not enough.

The European team championships are shortly to be held in Sheffield, followed a week later by the world championships in Pakistan. Ronny Rothenberger and Joachim Weber, his runner-up as national champion, reckon the Federal Republic should come between seventh and tenth in the European rankings.

But both are agreed that a far more important target is to persuade the general public that squash is more than a mere substitute for a sweat-out in the sauna.

Jürgen Wörner  
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 1 April 1977)

## The plight of Indian nurses who face redundancy

Germany has become our second home," says an Indian nurse at St Mary's Hospital, Brühl, but she insists on anonymity in order to ensure that it remains so as long as possible.

She is one of 16,357 foreign nurses working at hospitals and clinics in the Federal Republic.

She was born in Kerala, South India, about 2,500 kilometres from New Delhi. She came to this country in 1963 at the age of seventeen. She was unskilled, but a Roman Catholic, and managed to find employment here through friends and with the aid of the Church.

Fourteen years have since passed, during which time she spent a full year learning German, followed by three years' training as a nurse. She now works in the operating theatre and is liked and respected.

She is married to a fellow-countryman who is a salaried employee of a chemicals firm. They have a daughter who will shortly be going to school, a well-furnished apartment and friends and acquaintances here.

"We feel very happy here," she says. But it remains to be seen how long this will continue to be the case. In two to three years, the experts reckon, nurses from the Far East will be redundant.

Their places will be taken by nurses from Bavaria, Hesse and East Frisia, local girls who are showing greater interest in nursing as a career now that unemployment is an increasingly important consideration in their parts of the country.

In 1965 there were 29,902 graduates from nurses training colleges. Ten years

later the number had increased to 73,438. Already there are German nurses drawing unemployment benefit. The prospects look none too promising.

Work permits are only renewed for a few weeks at a time, six months at most. If they have no work nurses from the Far East will not have their residence permits renewed. They feel insecure in their dealings with the authorities, a feeling they share with all migrant workers.

Yet there are differences. Most nurses from overseas were enrolled for work in this country by or through the good offices of the Churches or missions.

At the time the position was perfectly clear. The Church, having brought them here, is responsible for seeing them safe back home again. Repatriation is the responsibility of Caritas, the Roman Catholic charitable organisation, in Cologne.

Caritas director Koenen and two of his staff recently returned from a ten-day visit to India. They were there to sound out the prospect of employment for 5,000 Indian nurses currently in this country.

The outcome was devastating. "They had no idea what was coming," Herr Koenen says. He and his aides negotiated with the Minister of Welfare in De-

lhi and the Premier of Kerala in Trivandrum, the state capital.

"They left behind a trail of astonishment and anger. Time and time again we were asked, 'Why do you want to come here? Why do you not simply keep the nurses. We had enrolled them in the first place and trained them to meet our needs. Besides, the Federal Republic was still economically sound and there was no reason why we should simply deport them.'"

When, particularly as they visited hospitals and medical facilities, the Caritas delegation soon began to appreciate why their hosts took such a dim idea of nurses being repatriated.

In India in general and Kerala in particular there just is not the sophisticated health system to provide employment for fully-trained nurses used to working with the latest equipment.

Integrating nurses trained in this country would prove very difficult, Herr Koenen says.

Besides, he and his aides were informed that German nurses' exams are not recognised in India, where other capabilities are required, such as the fundamentals of hygiene or midwifery, since most children are born at home.

Indian nurses need a grounding in tropical medicine, for that matter. As

Herr Koenen noted, "who has ulcers in India, when all is said and done?"

Caritas officials might well develop ulcers when they realise that their efforts to pave the way for repatriation have proved in vain. Herr Koenen felt brought down to earth with a vengeance, gone is the optimism he felt before his tour of India.

"Very few nurses will find suitable jobs on their return," he concludes.

The Kerala state government has at least undertaken to give nurses returning from Germany priority in employment at health centres in the country. Mind you, many of these centres as yet only exist on the drawing-board.

There is certainly no hope of spreading the nurses around the country. The 25 million Keralans speak Malayalam, a Dravidian language, with English as the official language.

In India as a whole the Union Government is keen on promoting Hindi as the official language, but twenty regional languages still exist, such as Hindi.

The language barrier is accentuated by a religious barrier, too. The nurses in this country are all Catholics, a denomination which counts for 25 per cent of the population in Kerala, whereas Catholics account for only 10 per cent of the population in other parts of the state.

And even if employment opportunities were to be created, the Indian health system is still extremely primitive. The Caritas director, Herr Koenen, observes: "The problem of social integration is a major one."

Continued on page 15

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